

## “WHEN LIFE IS HARD”

### JOHN 11:28-44

*Because the Bible is authentic, it does not sidestep difficult matters but confronts them. In fact, the ultimate stresser of death appears in the opening pages, yet Scripture does not ignore or sugarcoat it.*

### IN THE FACE OF DEATH

#### ① Man’s Reaction

A. Much \_\_\_\_\_

It encompasses each and every verse from 11:28-34.

Such are the unsettling consequences when mortality hits and the ground shifts and shakes.

B. Wrong \_\_\_\_\_

The mourners miscalculate Mary’s movement, as well as mistake her need.

Mary makes a wrong inference with the Lord (11:32)

We really do want God to act on our time, don’t we?

C. Horizontal \_\_\_\_\_

The people beside us and the circumstances around us contribute to and lead to the release of the salty fluid from our tear ducts. It’s \_\_\_\_\_. But it might just be a bit short-sighted.

#### ② God’s Response

A. S \_\_\_\_\_ in Plan

Though we are not Jesus, we nevertheless, like Him,

† are led by the \_\_\_\_\_ (Mt. 4:1; Gal. 5:18)

† are to \_\_\_\_\_ God the Father (Jn. 8:29; 2 Cor. 5:9)

† must purpose time in \_\_\_\_\_ with the Father (Mark 1:35; Eph. 6:18)

† must rely on \_\_\_\_\_ when facing temptation (Mt. 4:4,7,10; Col. 3:16)

B. S \_\_\_\_\_ over Sin

But before He weeps outwardly in 11:35, He groans inwardly in 11:33 – and is troubled.

In a world that worships \_\_\_\_\_, God calls us to mourn over sin.

C. S \_\_\_\_\_ in Everything

Notice also that He gives thanks \_\_\_\_\_ He prays; He does not simply give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ He prays and God answers.

### CONCLUSION

Though death creates unsettling consequences, we can model Christ. That will send quite a testimony to a lost, unbelieving, hopeless world. The graver concern is not our physical death but our spiritual death. Enter the Savior, who rescues us and removes our grave clothes to walk in newness of life.