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Moms, Tots, and Beyond  
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## **Expect God's Faithfulness in Unexpected Ways**

**Opening Question:** What are some expectations and hopes you have for your children?

I. God's faithfulness does not always prevent calamity, even though he has the power to do so.  
Scripture: John 11:1-22

II. God's faithfulness hones in on our faith, our belief in him as our **only** savior, the only source of life.  
Scripture: John 11:23-27.

A. Jesus, as our savior, is our/ our children's source of identity.  
Eph. 5:17 – the helmet of salvation

B. Only Jesus is the savior of our children. This means that we are not.

III. God's faithfulness brings abundant life to us and our children.  
Scripture: John 11:28-46

**<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 8: 38-39**

**Small Group Discussion Questions:**

1. Skim through John 11:1-44 again.

a. What do you notice about how Jesus reacted to the death of Lazarus?

b. What does his reaction tell you about his heart for his people?

c. How can this encourage you when you or your child are experiencing difficulty or pain?

2. Read John 11: 46-53. What did the resurrection of Lazarus cost Jesus?

**Personal Questions**

3. What expectations do you have of Jesus in regard to your children? In general?

4. Have you ever felt like Martha and Mary, that Jesus is taking a long time to “show up” in a situation – or even that he seems completely absent? What did you learn about God’s faithfulness?

5. Is there any area in your life to which Jesus has brought new life?