JESUS AND LAZARUS
Mary and Martha were worried. Their brother Lazarus was sick - very sick.
The sisters knew Lazarus might die soon.
They sent for Jesus. He loved this little family from Bethany.
When Jesus heard about Lazarus He told His disciples, "This sickness will not end in death."
Although Jesus was many miles away, He knew exactly what was going to happen to Lazarus.
Jesus waited two days before leaving for Bethany. Then He said something which puzzled His disciples. "Lazarus is dead."
I'm glad I was not there so you may believe." What did these strange words mean? What was Jesus planning to do?
When Jesus arrived at Bethany, Lazarus had been dead for four days.
His body, wrapped in grave clothes, was in a cave-like tomb.
Martha went to meet Jesus. "Your brother will rise again," Jesus said. "I know - in the resurrection at ..."
... the last day," Martha replied. She thought she had to wait until the end of time to see Lazarus again.
But Jesus meant something different.
"I am the resurrection and the life," Jesus told Martha. "He who believes in Me will live even though he dies."
Martha believed Jesus. She knew He was the Son of God. But how could He help Lazarus?
Everybody was sad because Lazarus had died. His sister Mary was crying.
So were her friends who tried to comfort her. Jesus cried too.
Jesus went with the people to the tomb.

A large stone lay across the doorway.
"Take away the stone," Jesus commanded.
"Lord," Martha answered, "by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."
At Jesus' command the men took away the stone. Then Jesus prayed to His heavenly Father.
Jesus was about to perform a miracle so great that people would know God sent Him. "Lazarus!" Jesus shouted. "Come out!"
The people must have stared at the cave in amazement. Could Jesus make a dead man live?
YES! Lazarus came out of the cave, ...
... all wrapped up in grave clothes - ALIVE!
"Loose him," Jesus said. "Let him go."
What joy there was! Tears turned to laughter. Jesus had kept His word.
Lazarus was alive again. Only God's Son could give life to a dead man.
Many people who saw this miracle believed in Jesus. But some others reported Him to His enemies - the temple leaders.
Jealously they plotted to kill Jesus. When Jesus knew this He went away for awhile.
Jesus and Lazarus

A story from God's Word, the Bible, is found in

John 11

"The entrance of Your Words gives light."
Psalm 119:130
The End
This Bible story tells us about our wonderful God who made us and who wants us to know Him. God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The punishment for sin is death, but God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and be punished for our sins. Then Jesus came back to life and went home to Heaven! If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will do it! He will come and live in you now, and you will live with Him forever.
If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God:

Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so that I can have new life now, and one day go to be with You forever. Help me to live for You as Your child. Amen.

Read the Bible and talk with God every day! John 3:16