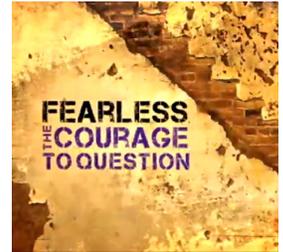


# Royal Redeemer

## CGS Community Discussion Guide

Based on the Sermon Series: Fearless  
And the sermon for April 2, 2017: Tears



**(For use as an opening Devotion, use only the highlighted portion)**

- **Begin by sharing a high and/or a low from your week**

- **Connect**

- When have you laughed so hard that you cried?

- **Grow** (read this passage aloud and listen for words or phrases that speak into your life now)

*On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18 Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, 19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.*

*21 "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."*

*24 Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."*

*25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"*

*27 "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world." 28 After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." 29 When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. 32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."*

*33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34 "Where have you laid him?" he asked.*

*"Come and see, Lord," they replied.*

*35 Jesus wept.*

*36 Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"*

**John 11:17-37**

- Share any words or phrases that speak into your life today.
- What can stand in the way of empathizing with someone who is suffering?
- What part does anger play in the grieving process?
- How does Royal Redeemer extend the hope of Christ to our neighbors?

Reflect: "Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of the overcoming of it." -Helen Keller

- **Serve**

- Find someone today who is grieving and enter into their pain with an open heart. Maybe you can fix it, maybe you cannot. But you can give them hope that they do not suffer alone.

- **End with Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**