Study Guide for February 14th, 2010. Evidence that demands a decision: John 11:38-54.

Introduction: Describe a time you faced evidence that compelled you to make a decision. What tipped the scale to persuade you to decide or act in a particular way?

I. Jesus & Martha:

A. Describe Martha's faith here (vs. 38-40) with that of her earlier expression (vs. 21-27)

B. What was Martha thinking or expecting at the tomb (read again vs. 38-39)?

C. Speculate on the development of Martha's faith after the miracle.

II. Jesus & the crowd:

A. Describe the faith / expectation of the crowd as expressed in (vs. 36-37)

B. John reports Jesus' prayer of thanksgiving **for the benefit of the people standing here**. What do you think Jesus wanted the crowd to grasp by the miracle?

C. How do the Jews respond to the miracle? (vs. 45-46)

III. Jesus & Lazarus:

A. Why do you think Jesus used a **loud voice** (vs. 43) to call Lazarus to come out?

B. What benefit did Lazarus receive from Jesus command to remove the grave clothes?

C. How do you think the later threats (John 12:9-11) affected Lazarus?

IV. Jesus & the Sanhedrin:

A. What was the attitude of the Sanhedrin toward Jesus?

B. What is their primary concern? How is this ironic?

C. Evaluate the plans of the Sanhedrin in light of Acts 2:22-23.

V. Jesus & Caiaphas:

A. What was Caiaphas' assessment of the deliberation? Describe his attitude.

B. What does Caiaphas propose? How is this ironic?

C. Summarize John's reflection and explanation of these proceedings. (vs. 51-52)