

1. Getting Some Big Ideas

a. There Are Big Ideas In the Text—But Not Every Big Idea

- i. If God has written this text so that people may know him then the text necessarily has

b. Ask 3 Questions to get some big ideas

- i. What does this say about God's Person?
- ii. What does it say about God's plans or purposes?
- iii. What does it say about People?

c. John 11

- i. What does this say about God's Person?
 - 1) When the Son of God is glorified, God is glorified
 - 2) Jesus is the resurrection and the life
 - 3) Father always hears the Son
 - 4) Jesus can heal the dead by command
- ii. What does it say about God's plans or purposes?
 - 1) Sickness and death can be subverted to glorify God
 - 2) Walking in the day is a sure way not to stumble—even if it means dying
 - 3) Jesus prays in front of people for their benefit
- iii. What does it say about People?
 - 1) People believe that Jesus' near-presence would have secured Lazarus' health
 - 2) People don't see the importance of the resurrection in everyday situations
 - 3) People who believe Jesus will never die
 - 4) People sometimes speak better than they know (Caiaphas prophesied not by his own initiative)
- iv. **Tip:** Conclusions should be tentative awaiting the whole counsel of Scripture as well as the body of believers throughout the entire historic Church.