

LIFE Group Sermon Questions

The Center of Everything: The Widow

Pastor Josh Parsons

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Luke 7:11-17



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Luke 7:11-17

Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. 12 As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. 13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." 14 Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "You man, I say to you, arise." 15 And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. 16 Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" 17 And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

Sermon Outline

- I. Jesus sees (Luke 7:13)
- II. Jesus cares (Luke 7:13)
- III. Jesus speaks (Luke 7:13)
- IV. Jesus understands (Luke 7:14)
- V. Jesus restores (Luke 7:13-14)

Discussion Questions

1. What did you learn today from the Scripture passage(s) that you didn't know before? What is something that hit you in a fresh way?

2. How does watching Jesus with this widow in Luke 7 encourage you in how you can care for other people who are in pain?

3. How would you explain to someone else why suffering and sorrow exist?

4. How can you "see" those around you who may be going through hard things? What might it look like practically to make them aware that they're not invisible to you?

5. Why is it important that Jesus both sees *and* cares for us? What would be the downside of having one but not the other?

6. How do we distinguish between God's voice and other voices?

7. How do we cultivate the habit of running to God's Word when life gets hard? What are some verses or passages that you could share with the rest of your group that have been a help to you in the past?

8. How do we cultivate the habit of *feeding* on God's Word when life *isn't* hard? What might be the benefit of doing that for when life *does* get hard?

9. In your own words, why does it matter that Jesus can understand our pain?

10. In Luke 7, Jesus brings the widow's dead son back to life. What does restoration look like if Jesus *doesn't* do something like that (i.e. give us back what we've lost)?

11. Read Psalm 126. How might this Psalm relate to the widow in Luke 7? How does it speak to you?

12. In Luke 7:16-17, those who witnessed this miracle did two things: they glorified God and they told others about what they'd seen. What does it look like for you to do both of those things, given what Jesus has done for you (brought you from death to life through the Gospel, Ephesians 2!)?