Understanding Jesus: Jesus Ruins a Funeral

In our passage today, Luke describes a funeral like no other. Jesus literally ruins a funeral . . . in a beautiful way. In doing so a widow receives an unexpected gift of compassion. When Jesus shows up with compassion and power anything is possible! This was true for the widow, and it is true for us as well. And it is this truth that allows us to face our own death with hope and certainty rather than confusion and fear. Let's continue to seek a deepening understanding of Jesus and what this means for us as we look at Luke 7:11-17 today.

Opening Discussion: Do you ever find yourself thinking about your own funeral? If so, what do you think about?

Read Luke 7:11-17

- 1. What is the context? Where is Jesus coming from? What event had recently occurred?
- 2. Who are the various people in this story?
- 3. Put yourself in the woman's place. What do you think she was thinking and feeling as she was walking along with her deceased son? Describe her life situation before she encounters Jesus.
- 4. Typically, Jesus heals in response to faith (e.g., the Centurion in 7:1-10), but here Jesus unilaterally decides to act. Why do you think he did?
- 5. How do the two crowds respond to what they witness (v. 16-17)?

- 6. What do we learn about Jesus in this passage?
- 7. One thing we learn about Jesus is that he feels compassion for a woman in need. Do you believe that Jesus has compassion towards you as you face your own difficult situations? Why or why not?
- 8. How do the events of this passage foreshadow what all believers will one day experience?
- 9. What is your main point of application from this passage?

Practicing the Rhythms of Rooted this Week

Daily Devotion u Prayer u Repentance u Sacrificial Generosity u Serve the Community u Share Your Story u Worship



Share Your Story: Spend some time this week reflecting on how you have received compassion from Jesus and how you might be able to share this story with someone who may not know God.



Worship: Take some time this week to worship God for the compassion He has shown to you in saving you. You were dead, but you are made alive in Christ, and you now live with the hope that though you will die, you will never truly die in Christ.