

2024



THE WIDOW
HE GAVE US NEW LIFE SERIES

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

God cares about you. He came that you might have life and life more abundantly. Sometimes life will knock the wind out of you, but God can resurrect you. God will show you what He is capable of and increase your faith. We are going to walk through Luke 7, to see how God is doing the unexpected and supernatural in our lives.

*Luke 7:11-17 NIV-[11] Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. [12] As he approached the town gate, **a dead person was being carried out--the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her.** [13] **When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry."** [14] Then he went up and **touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still.** He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" [15] The dead man sat up and began to talk, and **Jesus gave him back to his mother.** [16] They were all filled with awe and praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us," they said. "**God has come to help his people.**" [17] This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.*

- God is looking at you right now
- God is concerned about you
- God is coming to help you
- God is about to break the rules for you

What if I told you that God is about to give you a resurrection in your situation. What needs resurrecting in your life?

THE LOCATION

Luke 7:11 Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him.

- This is unusual and unconventional
- God knows where you are and knows everything about you
- God allowed something to happen in your life to get your attention
- God is in it the good, the bad, and the ugly

How have you handled your emotions in the best of times and the worst of times at the same time?

THE WOMAN

Luke 7:12 NIV- As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out – the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her.

- We know her past, her present and her future
 - She lost her husband
 - She lost her son
 - She was going to have to beg because no one was there to provide
- God is coming to get you and it's not going to be the norm
- People will try to label you from your circumstances
- People will say you don't look like what you've been through
- You have to learn how to manage midst of mixed emotions
- You have to learn how to let God be God in all situations
- Trust the timing of God

How has God reminded you that He is the God of anything, and He can do all things? How has this impacted who you are?

Isaiah 55:8-9 NIV-[8] "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. [9] "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- God knows more than you
- He is coming to get you
- He is about to do it differently
- He is no respecter of person

Why is it important to remember that God thinks differently than we do? How does this knowledge help you through difficult times?

THE RESURRECTION

HE FEELS WHAT HE SHOULDN'T FEEL

Luke 7:13 NIV-[13] When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry."

- He feels you and meets you where you are
- He steps into your grief and wants to get this off of you
- You can't live in the year of expectation grieving what you have lost
- Grief is the price you pay for love
- You can grieve in a healthy way

What has God done that showed you that He has you? How does knowing what God has done before build your faith in difficult situations?

Hebrews 4:15a-16 NIV-[15a] For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, [16] Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

- He has empathy for you
- You are supposed to grieve but don't love in it
- You can't heal from pain until you deal with it
- God can help you heal if you let him
- He takes on our pain, He became like us so we could be like him

When was the last time you had a good cry? Are you ready to let it go? How can you take what is grieving you and give it to God?

SYMPATHY is feeling compassion, sorrow, or pity for the hardships that another person encounters.

EMPATHY is putting yourself in the shoes of another!

Psalms 56:8 NLT -[8] You keep track of all my sorrows. You have collected all my tears in your bottle. You have recorded each one in your book.

- You will see later that all things will work together for you good
- He empathizes with what we go through
- God will teach you on how to live on what's left
- God gets into the trenches with you

Why is it important to know that God has compassion and empathy for you? How does this help you navigate your difficulties?

HE DOES WHAT SHOULDN'T BE DONE

Luke 7:14 NIV - [14] Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still.

- He touches what causes her grief
- Priest didn't touch dead things, He went against protocol
- He jumps over all the gates and rules to get to you
- God doesn't want you to keep living like this

- Grief is the price you pay for those you love, don't overpay

What is something God did for you that was not the norm? What has God canceled that the enemy tried to send your way?

EXAMPLES

- LAYING HANDS ON LEPER
- SPITTING ON A BLIND MAN
- MEETING A WOMAN IN BROAD LIGHT AT A WELL
- DEFENDING A PROSTITUTE
- HEALING ON THE SABBATH
- ALLOWING A BLEEDING WOMAN TO TOUCH HIM
- HE PUT HIS FINGER IN A MAN'S EAR, SPITS ON HIS HAND AND THEM GRABS THE MAN'S TONGUE
- HE SAVED AND DELIVERED YOU!!!

HE SPEAKS TO WHAT HE SHOULDN'T SPEAK TO

Luke 7:14b He Said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!"

- God is saying to you get up
- God is helping you he's about to take your tears

What has God spoken to you that changed your life?

Mark 11:23 NIV "Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, "Go, throw yourself into the sea, and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.

- Your confession is powerful
- Life and death is in the power of the tongue
- This is your day for a breakthrough
- Your misery is your message
- Your praise sends death in another direction

What is your confession now that you know God is with you? What are you praying and believing in God for?

*Luke 7:16 They were all filled with awe and praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us." they said. **God has come to help his people.**"*

- God is your help and your strength

- God is not outside of it but right there in it with me

Psalm 126:5 NIV - Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.

QUESTION

How is God resurrecting you from grief and loss?

DECLARATION

I will bless the Lord at all times and his praises shall be in my mouth.

PRAYER

Father God, Thank you for being my strength and waymaker. I trust you that you have me in the palm of your hands. I take back my praise. I take back my worship, because you are in it with me. Thank you for lifting me and healing me. I trust you and I bless your holy name. in Jesus' name, Amen!