

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Luke 7:11-17

Ice Breaker: What's one thing you did this summer that you really enjoyed?

Ice Breaker: What's one thing that happened this summer that you did not enjoy?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **Read Luke 7:11-17:** What is the context of this passage (i.e. where is Jesus, where has Jesus been)? What phrases or words stand out as being important for understanding this story?
2. Summarize the main story. What do we know about the characters of the story? What might their lives have been like before the son's death? How about for the mother after his death?
3. What was Jesus response to seeing the widow? What does this tell us about Jesus and his ministry? Unconcerned about ceremonial cleanliness, Jesus touched the bier. Why would he have done that?
4. What do the people say in response to Jesus' miracle and what do the sayings mean? What kind of a response is this from the people? What happens after the miracle?
5. Jesus is slowly revealing more about himself in Luke 7, answering the question, "Who is this...?" How does this passage answer that question; who is Jesus revealing himself to be?
6. Jesus' concern for the widow and his lack of concern of becoming "unclean" by the bier show us a picture of how he relates to us. Where have you seen Jesus' compassion towards you? Is it hard to believe that you can receive compassion from him? Do you feel his care for you in hard situations you may be going through?
7. Jesus also shows his willingness to become "unclean" for the sake of sinners. Do you find it hard to believe that Jesus can get close to you because of your sin? Do you find yourself pulling back from Jesus because of your sin? How does Jesus' final death on the cross strengthen your relationship with Jesus even when you sin?
8. How might the dead son being raised to life be a picture of Jesus? How about of us? How does Jesus' miracle reinforce your own hope and faith in Jesus?
9. How does this story change the way you might relate to your spouse or your family or your co-workers? What difference does this story and Jesus' actions make in your relationship with God?