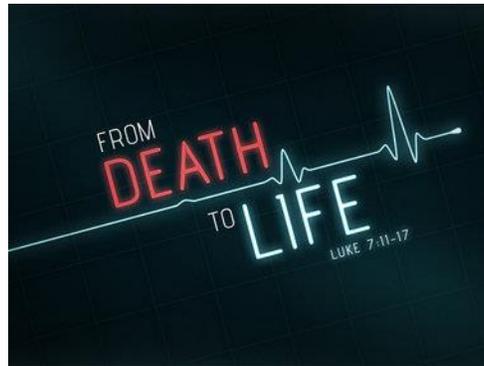


## Luke's Gospel: Son of Man, Seeker of Men.

"From Death to Life"

Happy Father's Day Edition



**Today's Big Question:** Are you truly alive inside?

**Background Highlight:** This miracle and the town of Nain is only recorded here in Luke.

Luke 7:11-17 (NKJV); Jesus Raises the Son of the Widow of Nain

<sup>11</sup> Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. <sup>12</sup> And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. <sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." <sup>14</sup> Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." <sup>15</sup> So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

<sup>16</sup> Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people." <sup>17</sup> And this report about Him went throughout all Judea and all the surrounding region.

Let's jump into the message:

**From Death to Life. 4 truths about the heart of Jesus for you:**

1. **The heart of Jesus is to REPLACE \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_** (v. 11).

- **The day after**-Jesus had just healed the Centurion's sick servant the day before...now Jesus finds Himself at a funeral procession.

- **Nain**—this is the only time this town is mentioned in the Bible. The word Nain is derived from a Hebrew word which means “pleasant, good, lovely, sweet, delightful.”
- The heart of Jesus is to replace the ashes of this world for the beauty of His world.

## 2. The heart of Jesus is to RESTORE broken \_\_\_\_\_ and shattered \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12-13).

- Let's look at this poor widow of Nain:
  - She was probably happily married---then her husband died.
  - She was blessed with an only son that took care of her as he got older—then he died.
  - Now the Mom of Merryville had become the Widow of Sadville.

**Scripture Insight:** 7:12 *dead person was being carried out.* Because bodies had to be buried outside a community, the procession is exiting the town. *widow.* Because women ordinarily could not earn an adequate income in that society, this widow would depend on her son's support in her old age.<sup>1</sup>

- **Jesus saw her**—she was in a crowd of people, but Jesus still saw her.
- Jesus was moved with compassion for her.
- Notice that no faith is mentioned on the woman's part. This was sheer act of grace on Jesus' part (MacArthur).

Psalm 30:5; *For His anger is but for a moment,  
His favor is for life;  
Weeping may endure for a night,  
But joy comes in the morning.*

## 3. The heart of Jesus is to RESURRECT \_\_\_\_\_ back to \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 14-15).

- The young man was dead and being carried as a corpse in a coffin to be buried.

<sup>1</sup> Quote from NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible.

- Jesus touched the open coffin! Jesus cared more for the person than for becoming ceremonially unclean. Jesus was impervious to defilement because "His power immediately dispelled the presence of all death and defilement" (MacArthur).

**Scripture Insight: 7:14** *bier*. More like an open stretcher than a coffin; after a person's death, the body was quickly washed and anointed and then carried out to the tomb. Contact with a corpse communicated the severest form of impurity ([Nu 19:11–20](#)); Jesus' touching the bier shows that he values mercy over purity (cf. [5:13](#)).<sup>2</sup>

- Jesus talked to the dead corpse and told the newly dead to get up!
- Look at what happens next: Jesus told the corpse to get up...and what happened next? The young man not only got up, but he started speaking!

**John 11:25-26**; <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. <sup>26</sup> And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

- Jesus raised the dead son...and then gave him back to his mother.

**I Kings 17:23**-And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives!"

**2 Kings 4:36-37**; <sup>36</sup> And he called Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite woman." So he called her. And when she came in to him, he said, "Pick up your son." <sup>37</sup> So she went in, fell at his feet, and bowed to the ground; then she picked up her son and went out.

#### 4. The heart of Jesus is to RENEW a sense of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in our world (v. 16-17).

- A holy sense of awe came upon the people-
  - They glorified God.
  - They praised God for sending Jesus—a great prophet has risen among us.

**Scripture Insight: 7:16** Prophets such as Elijah and Elisha had raised the dead ([1Ki 17:23](#); [2Ki 4:36](#)). *God has come to help his people.* See note on [1:68](#) (NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible).

<sup>2</sup> Quote from NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible.

- They recognized God's tangible presence among them—a divine visitation.
- They told everyone in the region about Jesus.
- What about you? Do you have a sense of heaven in your midst? Have you lost your childlike sense of awe and wonder?

**Sermon in a Sentence:** When Jesus enters your scene, death is transformed into life!

**Action Steps:**

- ***For the person who is struggling***, ask Jesus to replace, restore, resurrect, and renew your heart today.
- ***For the person who is dreaming***, keep on pressing to Jesus in your daily walk with God. Pray like never before. Dream like never before. Go after Jesus like never before.
- ***For the seeker***, the dead thing that needs to come back to life is you! Give your life to Jesus today!

**Make a decision this week?** Please let us know on your Connection Card.

**Preview for next Sunday:** "Jesus are you the One?" from Luke 7:18-35.

**Lunch Questions:**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What has died in your life that is presently keeping you down?</li><li>2. How does this message inspire hope for your future?</li><li>3. What dream need a resurrection in your life?</li></ol> |
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