

Life Group Notes

Sunday 1st November 2020

Speaker: Liz Green

Title: Luke: A widow's Son

Passage: Luke 7: 11-17

1. Sin is the root of death and destruction

Sin has wreaked havoc and misery in our world. The consequences of sin and death are everywhere; flowers die, cars rust, people die.

God created a world that was good. Sin introduced death. Sin can be blamed for all the pain in the world. Sin on a macro level as well as a micro (personal scale) causes death to trust, peace, joy, relationships, hope.

We need to hate sin for what it does in the world and in our own lives.

2. Jesus reveals himself as both powerful and personal

Jesus is called 'Lord' by Luke. Jesus also demonstrates his Lordship (that he is God) as he speaks life into the young man's dead body – only God can speak and life is formed. He is all powerful.

As Jesus 'sees' the widow, he also displays his care for the individual. Jesus has compassion and is moved by the needs of the one.

3. Jesus reverses the curse

In this one scene, we observe the destruction and misery that sin, that death has the power to dispense, as well as the hope and life that the power of Jesus has to restore. Jesus is able to reverse the curse of death for this young man, restoring hope to his mother.

On the cross, Jesus reversed the curse for all mankind by himself becoming the curse. Now, through the death of Jesus, everlasting life might be found.

And just as Jesus restores the son to his mother, one day, when the curse is reversed once and for all, in the eternal age, he will restore his people to one another.

4. Jesus is to be obeyed not just observed.

The crowd observe Jesus' miracle. They are fearful, they call him a prophet, they say 'God is amongst us' but we don't read that they turn to Jesus as Saviour.

Jesus doesn't come into the world to model answers to life's questions, He comes to be the answer to life's big questions. Jesus doesn't come primarily to show us how to live, he comes to be the reason that we live. He comes as a rescuer to a world that has been ravaged by the consequences of sin, to bring healing, hope and restoration.

Jesus said 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die, and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.' John 11:25.

Questions:

1. Did God bring to mind sin in your life that you need to deal with through this preach? Please do confess to someone you trust, receive forgiveness and ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to change.
2. Where in your life do you need to know Jesus is powerful right now? Where do you need to know him as personal?
3. What or who have you lost because of the fall that you are looking forward to being reconciled with in the eternal age? How did this account of Jesus encourage you?
4. Are there areas in your life that you have been looking at Jesus as the model rather than the answer to?