
“God Has Visited His People”

#30 | Luke 7:11-17

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WARMING UP

1. Share about a visit you had with some friends or family members that didn't quite go as expected. What happened? Have some fun with this one. ☺

DIGGING IN

2. *We are not on our own; God has visited his people!*
 - What are some of the emotions that come when you feel like you are on your own?
 - Highlight a few verses that speak about God's presence with us. What practical difference does it make to know that “God has visited his people”?
3. *Whatever you're facing . . . (7:11-13)*
 - What is the particular situation faced by the woman in this story? What cultural realities make it an especially desperate state of affairs for her?
 - When we face crushing life circumstances, we can feel like God doesn't know or perhaps even care about our plight. Has this ever been your experience?
 - What does the word “compassion” mean? What does genuine compassion look like in everyday life? When have you received God's compassion?
 - Charles Spurgeon said, “Do you believe that [Jesus] endured Gethsemane's terrible garden with its blood sweat and that he is not concerned about you?” What is your response to this?
4. . . . *Jesus gives you life (7:14-15)*
 - How are Jesus' actions unorthodox vis-à-vis the funeral procession and the dead man? Insert yourself into the story.
 - Pastor Todd said, “If you are to have life from [Jesus], then you must recognize his authority over everything including death.” Where does Jesus' authority come from? What does it mean to submit yourself to his authority?
 - Do you agree that many people seem to be more focused on “solving” the problem of physical death rather than spiritual death? Why or why not? How is extended/enhanced physical life pointless apart from the promise of spiritual life?
5. . . . *and offers you hope (7:16-17)*
 - What have the people in this story been hoping for? What is the longing of their hearts? How does v. 16 speak to these questions?
 - In times of great difficulty, what kind of hope do we typically offer? In what way(s) is the hope that Jesus offers utterly unique?
 - Pastor Todd said, “It is not that God *knows* your situation. Not that he *allows* your situation. It is that he *ordained* your situation for his good purposes in your life—to draw you to him.” What is your response to this?

BREAKING OUT

6. Which part of this message intersected with your life the most? How have you previously experienced the life and hope that only Christ can offer? What are you facing now that requires his gracious intervention?