

**The Gospel of Luke/ Lesson 13**

**The Son of The Widow of Nain**

**Luke 7:11-17**

**Anointing Jesus' Feet**

**Luke 7:36-50**

### **For Servants,**

- Please review the introduction to the Book of Luke and pick some information to focus on.
- It is advisable to have the children take turns in reading the verses so that they get engaged and pay attention. Upon the servant prep. Servant may elect to summarize some verses into a story instead of reading verse by verse.

### **MEMORY VERSE**

**JAMES 7:14**

**And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."**

### **LESSON TIME!**

**In this lesson we will have 2 stories:**

- 1- The Son of The Widow of Nain**
- 2- Anointing Jesus' Feet**

## **Part 1 of the lesson**

# **The Son of The Widow of Nain**

## **Luke 7:11-17**

**Lesson Goal: Jesus is the resurrection and the life.**

Today we will read about Jesus making a very special miracle. He is going to raise the son of a widow from the dead. Of all the miracles that Jesus did, raising people from the dead is probably the most amazing. It is amazing because it shows us several things;

- **Jesus is God come in the flesh.**
- **He has power and authority over death.**
- **Not only can He heal people from disease or sickness but He can also raise them from the dead.**

**Jesus is the resurrection and the life.**

Let's look at our story for today and learn more about how Jesus raised the widow's son from the dead.

### **Luke 7:11**

**11 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.**

It was the day after Jesus had healed the centurion's servant when He came to the

city of Nain. **The name of the city means, "beautiful."** Notice that many of His disciples went with Him, and a great multitude went along also. The crowds saw Jesus do amazing things. They saw Him heal people; He made the blind see and the lame walk. Sometimes Jesus would feed the entire crowd at the end of the day and everyone was invited. All these things were great.

### **Luke 7:12-13**

**12 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. 13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."**

When a person died in biblical times, there was an immediate time of wailing and lamenting for that person. The reason such large crowds would follow was to show respect to the family members and to support them during this hard time.

The burial had to take place quickly because of the hot climate, which led to rapid decomposition. The body was washed, wrapped in cloth, and put into a coffin or on a wooden stretcher. It was at this time that Jesus approached the town entrance and saw the dead man being carried away for burial. Jesus noticed the widow; He knew that this was her only son. **Does anyone know what a widow is?** [ for servants of younger age children; you may simplify the below or just mention that the husband died]

[A widow is a woman whose husband has died. To be a widow in Jesus' day was a very real problem because it meant that a family's name would cease and their land and possessions would pass on to others. It could also be a great threat to a young woman's future because she likely faced many years of widowhood without a protector or a provider. A child was the only means of financial security for a widow.

The Bible teaches that the first-born son was to receive all the inheritance when the father passed away. In this particular case, this only son was the last one to hold the rights to his family's inheritance. If there were not any family members left to claim the inheritance, all the possessions, including land, houses, and livestock, would go to the closest relative.]

We see God's heart so often reflected in the Bible towards widows and orphans. He commands His people to care for the widows and orphans. There are people today who cannot provide for themselves. As Christians, we need to care for them, pray for them and help out when and where we can.

Jesus looked at the widow and because of His tender heart, he had compassion for her and her grief and decided to raise her young man son from the dead; Jesus is always there for us. He speaks comfort into our lives when it seems we are at the end of ourselves. He tells us not to cry because the Holy Spirit is our great Comforter. He tells us not to worry because He is in control; He loves us. This widow loved her son. Did you know that God loved her son more than she loved him? God loves you more than anyone else does, even your mom and Dad.

### **Luke 7:14-15**

**14 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." 15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.**

Under the Law, touching anything dead made you unclean. Jesus did something that shocked those around Him. He touched the open coffin, and everyone stopped to see what was going to happen. **Jesus is the resurrection and the life**, and He can do anything, even raise someone from the dead. Would you stop to watch Jesus raise someone from the dead? I would!

According to Jewish custom, the funeral procession was done with an open coffin. Notice that Jesus gives a command to the widow's dead son, "Young man, I say to you, arise." Jesus gives life because He is God; the Bible teaches that the world was created through Him (Colossians 1:16). In Genesis, we read that God spoke the universe, the world, and everything in it into existence. All Jesus had to do was speak, and the widow's son was resurrected. And he immediately began speaking.

### **Luke 7:16-17**

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

The people were filled with wonder and amazement because Jesus did a miracle. He had raised a man from the dead. Only God can do a miracle like this.

Jesus brings joy and happiness into our lives, and our natural response is to praise Him. The widow was comforted that her son was raised from the dead. Are we happy and joyful that Jesus has given us the promise of everlasting life?

Explain to the children that the young man in the lesson could not raise himself up from the dead. He could only rise again in the power of Jesus' word.

## Part 2 of the lesson

# Anointing Jesus' Feet

### Luke 7:36-50

#### LESSON TIME!

**Goal: Jesus is worthy of all honor.**

In Jesus' time there was a certain group of religious leaders called **the Pharisees**. The Pharisees believed that they could be perfect and go to heaven by keeping the Law of Moses. But they had also added many of their own rules and traditions to the law. The word Pharisee means "those who separate themselves."

The Pharisees separated themselves from the ordinary people because they believed the only way to be saved was to keep the law perfectly. They felt that they were better than the common sinful people. Simon was a prideful Pharisee. He thought that he was better than others because he was a Pharisee and kept the law. One day Simon asked Jesus to join him for a meal.

#### Luke 7:36-38

**36 Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. 37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, 38 and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.**

Simon the Pharisee invited Jesus at his house and Jesus accepted; In Jesus' day it was important to be hospitable. The roads they walked on were very dusty, and they wore open toed sandals. It was customary for the host to have his guest's feet washed. The host would also greet his guest with a kiss and anoint him with fragrant oil.

Simon was not a very good host because he did not pay Jesus these small respects. The woman that came to see Jesus was a sinner and was probably known by everyone else as a sinner. Yet she washed and kissed Jesus' feet and anointed Him with oil. The lady that was a sinner was not Jesus' host or even invited to the feast, but she went out of her way to honor Him. **Jesus is worthy of all honor.**

The Woman started to weep and her tears were washing Jesus's feet, she felt unworthy so she wiped his feet with her hair and anointed Him with the very expensive oil she brought.

This woman gave a great example of what our attitude needs to be like when we are in the presence of Jesus. We need to worship Him in humility and honor Him.

#### Luke 7:39

**39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."**

Simon, the Pharisee, knew the woman was a sinner. He would not touch her because it would be a violation of his traditions. He would be considered unclean. Simon thought, if Jesus were a true prophet from God, He would have known the lady was a sinner and would not allow her to touch Him. Simon did not realize that Jesus wanted sinners to come to Him so that He could help them and forgive their sins. Can we come to Jesus even when we sin?

Simon was very religious, but he did not really have a relationship with God. If he truly knew God, he would know that God's heart is for everyone to turn towards Him.

The good news is that we can come to Jesus at any time--no matter what sin we may have committed. Jesus loves us and wants us to come to Him so that we may receive forgiveness and walk in truth.

It is important to also note that Jesus never violated any of the Law of Moses contained in the Bible. At the same time, however, He did not want to keep the traditions the Pharisees had added to the scriptures, especially when those rules and traditions kept people from being helped. We see examples of this when Jesus healed people on the Sabbath day. Jesus was perfect in every way, but He refused to keep the traditions of man.

### **Luke 7:40-43**

**40 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you."**

**So he said, "Teacher, say it."**

**41 "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"**

**43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more."**

**And He said to him, "You have rightly judged**

Jesus is God and He of course knew what was Simon thinking therefore He answered him; Jesus would often tell stories or parables to illustrate an important truth. He wanted Simon to understand that his heart was not right. The moneylender in Jesus' story loaned money to the two men. One man owed a little over a month's wages while the other man owed more than a year's wage. Since they could not pay the moneylender, he canceled (forgave) their debt; in other words, they did not have to pay him back. The man who owed more was more grateful because his debt was a bigger burden.

**Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"** How would you have answered this question? God will forgive any sin when we ask Him to. There is no sin too great or too small that His grace cannot handle. Our response to Him is love because of how much He has forgiven us. We never deserve salvation. Simon thought he did because he was such a "good" person. But all of us have sinned and are in need of God's forgiveness (Rom. 3:23). When we are forgiven, we respond to Jesus in love and thanksgiving. **Jesus is worthy of all honor.**

### Luke 7:44-48

**44 Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. 45 You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. 46 You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. 47 Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." 48 Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."**

Jesus honored the woman who anointed His feet and showed Simon that she did more than him and was more hospitable; not only that but with what she did she actually anointed Jesus as if she was anointing Him after being crucified and in the grave; what a great privilege.

Simon thought he was able to keep the whole law, that he was perfect and had no need of Jesus. The lady that was a sinner recognized her condition and knew she needed Jesus. The lady was like the man that Jesus spoke of before who owed a lot of money. She had sinned much, but just as the man's debt was cancelled; the lady's sin was cancelled when Jesus forgave her. She knew that **Jesus is worthy of all honor** and loved Him much because He forgave her sin. Simon did not think he needed Jesus; therefore, he loved Him very little.

### Luke 7:49-50

**49 And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" 50 Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."**

The people at the table wondered why Jesus was forgiving sins; they knew that only God could forgive sin. But Jesus had all authority to forgive sins because He is God. This is why **Jesus is worthy of all honor**.

Jesus told the woman her faith had saved her. Simon was mistaken in thinking that keeping the law could save him. Simon's pride kept him from realizing he was a sinner just like the woman and needed Jesus' forgiveness too. Even though Simon tried to keep the law, his heart and thoughts were still evil. The Bible tells us if we break one commandment, we are guilty of all. For this reason, no one could ever keep the law to be saved; Jesus had to come to earth and died to provide forgiveness for our sins. When Jesus died, He took the punishment for our sins, and our debt was cancelled. Jesus gave His life for us. **Jesus is worthy of all honor**.

### **Clean or Dirty? [ Visual Aid ]**

Pre-prepare a glass for this illustration by taking a clear glass and making it really dirty on the inside. Wrap the glass with a piece of white paper so that none of the dirt can be seen.

Ask the class to tell you if the glass is clean or dirty. Take the paper off and show them that appearances can be deceiving. The glass is really very dirty.

Explain to the class that only Jesus can clean us from the inside out. Even if we appear clean on the outside, without Jesus we are never really clean.

### **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for Jesus' power over death, thanks for God's forgiveness as he forgave the sinner woman to forgive us all.

### **Parents email:**

Dear Parents;

In the lesson this week, we learned about The Widow from Nain. (Luke 7:11-17). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. Jesus had compassion on the widow of Nain and raised her son from the dead. Isn't it exciting to know that the One who we put our trust in has power over death? We who believe in Jesus will have eternal life because when He rose from the dead, He forever conquered death!

we also learned about a time when the sinner woman anointed Jesus' feet (Luke 7:36-50). We encourage you to review these scriptures with your child. A Pharisee invited Jesus to dinner and while He was there a woman came and washed His feet with her tears and then anointed His feet with fragrant oil. The Bible doesn't say a lot about her except that she was a sinner and wanted to receive forgiveness. The Pharisee, unlike the woman who anointed Jesus with fragrant oil, gave Jesus no special honor. In fact, he was judging Jesus in his heart because Jesus was talking to this sinful woman. Jesus taught us a valuable lesson about His forgiveness and our response to Him. We don't deserve salvation; it is a gift from God. Jesus is worthy to receive all of our worship and respect. We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's Word together.

### **Video**