

Closing Prayer

Close with prayer for the spiritual needs of your family, your spiritual family, and people everywhere.



Connection Group Study Guide

For the week of June 30 – July 6

Luke 7:11-17

STRETCH MARKS

WHEN I FACE DEATH

MY NEXT STEP THIS WEEK IS TO...

- Memorize Philippians 1:21.
- Read through Rev 21-22, Ps 56, 1 Cor 15, and Eph 2:1-10.
- Write a prayer thanking God for the comfort I can have in the face of death.

Opening Prayer

Introduction

Have you ever had a problem where you needed the help of someone important but it seemed like they didn't really care about what was happening to you? If so, how did that make you feel?

Into the Bible

Read Luke 7:11-17

In your own words, describe the setting of the story this text sets before us. Consider the following

- Location
- Situation
- Participants
- Emotions

What three things does Jesus do for the grieving widow in verse 13?

What is startling about Jesus' words to the woman? Why do you suppose He said them?

What did Jesus do next, and what is so startling about that?

Last week, we heard about the centurion's confidence in the power of Jesus' word. Why is this a fitting account to follow?

What does the reaction of the people tell us?

Connecting

What are some ways in which the circumstances in this event are different from the one recorded in verses 1-10? How are they similar?

The widow at Nain was the recipient of a great miracle. What encouragement is there for those of us who have not experienced that kind of miracle in our lives? (Take a minute to read through Luke 7:18-23)

What do you find particularly striking or encouraging about the way Jesus acts in this passage? How do the truths we learn here about Jesus give us courage and hope in the midst of our grief?

How does our society typically cope with the reality of death? How does this differ from the Bible's teachings? How often do you think about death? What kinds of emotions does the thought of death arouse?