

## 1. Connect

**Question of the Day. Highs and Lows. Share how last week's message influenced your week.**

What part of last week's sermon on Micah 6:8 did you take into your week? How did God call you towards opposing injustice as a tangible expression of his love?

## 2. Engage: Sermon Review + Discussion

Read Luke 7:11-17 together as a LifeGroup:

*11 Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. 12 As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry." 14 Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" 15 The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother. 16 They were all filled with awe and praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us," they said. "God has come to help his people." 17 This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.*

As you read this passage, what words or phrases resonate with you? Share this aloud with your group.

We are in the first week of our four-week Resurrection series leading up to Easter. Pastor Albert says Jesus' resurrecting power comforts us in our pain.

- In the same way Jesus says to the widow, "Don't give up," Jesus says the same to you: "Don't give up!" In whatever realities you may be holding in your life today, where might Jesus be saying these words to you? Share aloud with your group a difficult circumstance you are facing that Jesus can speak into.
- In all the complexities and challenges surrounding the boy's funeral, Jesus intentionally seeks out the widow. Pastor Albert said many of us have emotional and spiritual complexities, causing

us to wonder if Jesus even sees us. Take several minutes in quiet time as a group to think through what emotional and spiritual complexities are surrounding you today? Share aloud with your group.

- In the choice of words used in this passage, Jesus says that he not only sees you, but he sees *in* you. Jesus sees your heart-- your pain, your grief and suffering. What comes up as you process this reality? Is it easier to figure things out on your own or do you want to be seen? How does it make you feel that Jesus sees *in* you? Share aloud with your group.
- As Jesus approaches the boy, he touches him. The word, "touch" in the Greek is not a soft or soothing touch. The translation of the specific word, "touch" in the Greek" is to *control* and *master*. Jesus is able to put his hand into dead things because he has resurrecting power. He can bring dead things to life! What dead things are you asking Jesus to bring back to life today? Share aloud with your group.

### **3. Apply: Next Faithful Step**

In Jesus' interaction with the widow, the text says that his "heart went out to her." Pastor Albert explained this further as Jesus saying, "I'm not *moved* away from your pain. I'm drawn *towards* you in your pain." Pastor Albert defined compassion in this way: *Compassion is when your pain lives in my heart.* Is there anyone in your life you are carrying their pain alongside of them? Whose "pain lives inside your heart" in this season? How can you tangibly minister or walk alongside of them this week with the resurrecting love of Jesus?

*\*If anyone needs additional pastoral support or prayers regarding this sermon or any other aspect of our Resurrection series, please don't hesitate to reach out to our pastoral staff. We would love to chat more deeply and pray with you.*