

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Pastor Jake Magee

For Everyone | When God Visits | Luke 7:11-17



“<sup>11</sup> Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. <sup>12</sup> As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. <sup>13</sup> And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” <sup>14</sup> Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” <sup>15</sup> And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. <sup>16</sup> Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!” <sup>17</sup> And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.”

**When God visits.**

◆ Where Does He Visit?

◆ Who Does He Visit?

◆ How Does He Visit?

**Study Questions:** *on Both pages 2 & 3*  
**When God Visits | Luke 7:11-17**

**Getting Started:**

- 1) Today we examine an event at the gates of a city, a city that was probably misnamed. What are some strange names for cities?
  
- 2) Think of a Prime Minister of some great nation.
  - a) If he or she were to visit some place, what kind of place would they visit, what kind of people would they visit, and how would visit that place?
  - b) Apply these answers with how we might initially think God would visit us.
  
- 3) Jesus visits a placed called beautiful (“Nain” means beautiful), but what we see at the city gates is the tragic reality of death.
  - a) Reflecting on the answers to the last question, how is Jesus’ visitation different from what people expected?
  - b) How is this visitation characteristic of his entire mission? In other words, what does this tell us about what “places” God tends to show up?
  - c) What does this tell us about our lives?
  
- 4) Jesus visits a widow who has lost her Son.
  - a) What would probably become of this woman, unless Jesus gets involved? Why?
  - b) In that day women were dehumanized and exploited. They were pictures of “disadvantage” and “weakness.” What are some people groups in the world that we might point to today as pictures of “disadvantage” and “weakness”?
  - c) When God shows up, he seems especially drawn to the disadvantaged. Why, and what does this say about his best work?
  
- 5) Contrast this story with last week’s. Whereas the Centurion’s faith featured prominently, what does this passage tell us about the woman’s faith? What’s so significant about that?
  
- 6) Jesus visits this tragedy by facing off and laying hold of death. What’s the significance of Jesus seizing the bier or casket?
  
- 7) Does this story tell us anything about our post-mortem existence?

*Questions continued on next page.*

8) The crowd calls Jesus a great prophet. They likely would have thought of the two greatest prophets of the Old Testament (Elijah and Elisha) and similar miracles they performed for widows.

Read the account of Elisha in 2 Kings 4:18-37.

- a) What's different about Jesus' miracle and Elisha's?
- b) What do you think Elisha was trying to do with his strange treatment of the corpse?
- c) How did Pastor Jake liken this to what Jesus did for us in his incarnation and crucifixion?

9) The crowd calls Jesus 'God who was visiting them.' What in this story sets Jesus apart as the God of the prophets rather than a prophet of God?



### ***FBC Family Updates & Information***

- ◆ FBC Business Meeting, June 28 - [www.sheltonfbc.org/business](http://www.sheltonfbc.org/business) **Vote ONLINE or by Mail In Ballot**
- ◆ **Sunday Morning** Notes & Questions online at: <http://www.sheltonfbc.org/sundaymornings/>
- ◆ **Watch our Services** Sundays @ 9:00 and 10:30 am <https://www.facebook.com/sheltonfbc/> Scroll down the page to see the Livestream. Comment to let us know you're with us!
- ◆ **Watch our RECORDED Service** on **Vimeo**: <https://vimeo.com/user104570771> click on the **+FOLLOW** in the right hand corner to get notices of our postings.
- ◆ **Giving**: Our continued act of worship. Give Online [www.sheltonfbc.org](http://www.sheltonfbc.org), use Bill Pay from your bank, or send your Checks to FBC, 428 W. Cota St., Shelton WA. 98584

**FBC Office Hours M.—Th. 8:30 am.—3:30 pm.**

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