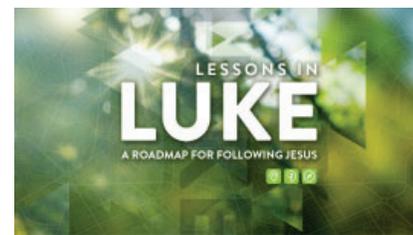


DAILY READING PLAN



Week of June 6, 2021

Lessons in Luke: New Life

Luke 7:11-17

You will be reading the same passage from the Gospel of Luke each day this week. Read the full passage each day, taking note of what is familiar as well as what you notice afresh each day.

Luke 7:11-17

¹¹ Soon [after leaving Capernaum, Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. ¹² As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. ¹³ When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴ Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, rise!" ¹⁵ The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶ Fear [Awe] seized all of them; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us!" and "God has looked favorably on his people!" ¹⁷ This word about him spread throughout Judea and all the surrounding country.

Day One: Read Luke 7:11-17

- The scope of loss throughout the year 2020 was enormous. People experienced loss on nearly every level: loss of life, loss of a sense of safety, loss of social connections and personal freedoms, the loss of employment, financial security, in-person education, sports, going to restaurants, sporting and/or musical events, as well as the ability to spend time with friends and loved ones. Spend some reflective time today thinking about the scope of loss that you've experienced over the past year. What did you notice most about the passage from Luke?

Day Two: Read Luke 7:11-17

- When we experience loss – whatever the loss may be, our vision tends to narrow. Some people talk about having "tunnel vision" when faced with a tragic loss. It's difficult to see beyond the loss in that moment. When you've experienced loss in your life – whatever the loss was – what impact did that have on you? How did you navigate the first moments and days of that loss? How do you relate to the woman in Luke's story who lost both her husband and her son?

Day Three: Read Luke 7:11-17

- Once you've settled into the reality of your own particular loss, what did that experience do to you? Were you disappointed? Were you angry? Were you fearful? Were you energized? At what point did you feel like the grieving mother in Luke's story? Did you feel like your life was over? Or was there some inner reserve that kept you afloat?

Day Four: Read Luke 7:11-17

- As you read Luke's story again today. Close your eyes and try to imagine the crowd around the mother. Place yourself in that crowd of people. How are you relating to the woman? What would you say to her? What would you do to convey your compassion to her? Thinking back to your own loss, who was your "crowd"? Who walked alongside of you during your most challenging days? How did your family and friends help you? What about those interactions were most helpful? What was most unhelpful?

Day Five: Read Luke 7:11-17

- How did your faith community specifically show up for you? In the language of the story from Luke's gospel, how did the Spirit breathe life back into you? How did Jesus bring you back to life?