

# RAISED TO LIFE

Part 1: Drowning in Death

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## God's solution to Moses' dilemma:

"I'll meet you in the water." (Exodus 14)

### A "Raised to Life" Story from Luke 7

<sup>11</sup> Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her...

### A Story of Twos and Ones

Two large crowds

Two broken hearts

Two only sons

Two mortal enemies: Life and Death

<sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, "Don't cry."  
<sup>14</sup> Then he went up and touched the coffin, and those carrying it stood still.

### The Rest of the Story

<sup>14b</sup> He [Jesus] said, "Young man, I say to you, get up!" <sup>15</sup> The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother.

<sup>16</sup> 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." <sup>17</sup> This news about Jesus spread throughout Judea and the surrounding country.

### What we find in the rest of the story:

One saved life

One thankful soul

One worshiping family

One purpose served

One triumphant Savior

One present opportunity

Dear Jesus,

I believe in my heart and confess with my mouth  
that you are the Son of God,  
that you came to earth to die for my sins,  
and that you messed up your own funeral by coming back to life,  
defeating death and the grave once and for all.  
I ask you to forgive my sins and make me whole.  
I ask you to be the Lord and leader of my life  
and to use me to point more people toward you.

I pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

### Next Steps

- **Invite and bring your friends and family** — especially the ones you've been praying for over the last few weeks — to join you at one of our Easter services this year. There's an invitation on every seat today and more in the Commons.
- **Pray about being baptized on Easter.** If you've chosen to follow Jesus, we will be baptizing in every Easter service this year. Ask God if this is the right opportunity for you to demonstrate your faith in him.
- **Serve this Easter.** There are still dozens of spots to fill in order to serve our guests well during this Easter season. Use the insert in today's program to sign up for one or more opportunities during Spring Cleaning, Good Friday, or Easter weekend.

### Small Group Questions

- 1) What are your plans for Easter this year?
- 2) Have you ever felt like Moses or the widow (back against the wall, no options, drowning in grief and sorrow)? What did you do? Did God give you a way out?
- 3) People don't like funerals because they don't like dealing with death. How does Jesus' approach to death and funerals give you hope today?
- 4) Have you been raised to life by Jesus? Share your story of how God saved you!
- 5) How are you going to participate in "spreading the news of Jesus" throughout Whatcom county this Easter? Who are the people on your "Praying For 3" card?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?