



## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

3/16-17 - S2S donation wknd

3/21 - last supper

3/22-23 - S2S event

3/26 - worship tnl

3/31 - Easter



MARCH 11TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ POWER - PT FOUR

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## ***Beyond the Miracle***

*I am sure there are things in your life you want God to heal right now. Me too! But it's important that we look beyond the need.*

*Fast forward from the day Jesus healed Jarius' daughter and the bleeding woman. What do you think their lives were like the next day?*

*A year later?*

*Five years later?*

*Ten years later?*

*The truth is both of these ladies went on to face challenges after their encounter with Jesus. They probably got sick again. Eventually Jarius' daughter faced death a second time. The woman with the issue of blood may have faced another chronic condition. Eventually she also died because of weakness in her body. So why did Jesus bother to heal them?*

*He healed their bodies so He could heal their hearts.*

*Miracles get our attention, but physical healing is ultimately not God's most powerful work in our lives. The reason He displays His power by healing is to increase our faith in Him and show us just how big He is.*

Think about the areas of your life where you'd like to see Jesus work. Do you just want Him to make the problem go away or do you want His glory to be displayed in your circumstances?

What is something you have learned from these women's stories?

MARCH 14TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ COMPASSION - PT ONE

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.”

Luke 8:15

## ***An Encounter with Compassion***

Grab your and read Luke 8:51-56. Highlight or underline anything that stands out to you.

Why did Jesus tell the crowd to “stop crying”?

*Sometimes when we tell others not to cry we want them to shut off the waterworks because it makes us uncomfortable. Other times, we simply don't know what else to say. But when Jesus says, “Don't cry,” He means something entirely different!*

How do you react to others crying?

*In the case of Jarius' daughter, Jesus cut the mourners short because He was going to do something about their grief. To them, the situation seemed hopeless, but Jesus knew better. When He told them to stop crying, He wasn't asking them to suck it up and pretend that everything was okay. He was letting them know that hope was coming to a situation that seemed hopeless. He was moved with compassion for the girl and those who loved her.*

Compassion goes beyond feeling sorry for someone. Compassion = love in action. Look up the definition of compassion and write it below:

Describe a time in your life when someone had compassion on you:

MARCH 18TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ COMPASSION - PT TWO

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## ***Don't Bury Hope***

Read Luke 7:11-12. Highlight or underline anything that stands out to you.

*No doubt this woman was grieved by the death of her son, but her situation was much more desperate than that. The Bible tells us she was a widow, meaning her husband had also died. That means the responsibility to care for her financial and physical needs would likely shift to her son. Now her only son was dead, and she had been left absolutely destitute. This situation looked hopeless. Her story reminds me to keep two little words on repeat.*

Has there ever been a time in your life when you felt hopeless? When?

*But God . . .*

Check out Psalm 42:11:

*Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.*

What does this verse mean to you personally?

*When we stand at the graveside of something or someone that matters to us, we are forced to ask the question this momma must have asked: "Where does my hope come from?"*

When you are in a hopeless situation, where do you turn to first for hope/comfort? Be honest!

Read Luke 7:13-17. Highlight or underline anything that stands out to you.

Why did Jesus tell this grieving mother not to cry?

*Because He was about to respond with compassion and bring her boy back from the grave.*

*My heart wants to burst from these words:*

*And Jesus gave him to his mother (v. 15).*

*Talk about love in action! While this woman was still dressed in her funeral clothes, Jesus intervened, raised the dead man back to life, and tenderly handed him back to his momma.*

MARCH 21ST

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ COMPASSION - PT THREE

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## ***A Beautiful Response***

*The Bible records three responses to the resurrection of the widow's son by the crowds who witnessed this miracle.*

*(1) Initial response: THEY EXPERIENCED FEAR.*

There are two different definitions for fear. Look them up and record below:

*The word fear in this passage may not mean they were afraid. More likely they developed a healthy sense of respect and awe because of the power Jesus demonstrated.*

*God's Word asks us to have a similar response to God. Read Ecclesiastes 12:13*

*(2) Next response: THEY GLORIFIED GOD.*

What does it mean to glorify something or someone?



*Remember Luke 7:16?*

*And they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"*

*(3) Final response: THEY TOLD OTHERS.*

Why is this particular response important?

*I'm sure they told the story of the widow's son, but they didn't stop there. They instinctively knew that Jesus' ability to raise the dead made Him extraordinary. They proclaimed that Jesus was a great prophet and that God had visited them.*

*When Jesus puts love into action, He does more than just change our circumstances; He helps us to see Him for who He really is. Then we have a chance to tell others that compassion is part of Jesus' character. He sees our desperate circumstances and responds with love in action.*

What keeps us from sharing with others about Jesus' compassion for us?

Have you ever talked about Jesus' compassion in your own life with non-believers?  
What was it like?

*In this life we will still have to bury those we love, and death will remain an inevitable part of our experience. But if your situation feels hopeless, dry your eyes. Our hope is set on Jesus, whose compassion heals our brokenness and whose resurrection power gives everlasting life.*

How has Jesus showed compassion toward you?

MARCH 25TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ COMPASSION - PT FOUR

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## ***Your Response***

What is something you have learned from the widow's story?

Write a letter to God thanking him for the compassion he has had on you in your life below:

MARCH 28TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ HUMILITY - PT ONE

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## ***An Encounter with Humility***

*Perhaps when you think of royalty, you imagine the fairy tale variety with a sprawling castle, huge throne, and great power. Maybe you imagine the modern royal family of Great Britain with their wedding spectaculars and endless stream of adorable kid pics. Either way, most of us think of power, authority, and celebrity status when we envision royalty.*

*Jesus has a way of turning our perspective upside down.*

Grab your Bible and read [Revelation 19:16](#).

What does this verse mean?

*Jesus is a king all right! The Bible describes Him as the King of kings and Lord of lords.  
Power? Check.  
Riches? Check.  
Fame? Check!  
And yet Jesus didn't flaunt this while on earth. Instead, He demonstrated  
incredible humility.*

What is the definition of humility?

How would you explain humility to a kindergartener?

Explain a time in your life when either you or someone else demonstrated humility:

APRIL 1ST

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ HUMILITY - PT TWO

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## ***Humili-what?***

*Humility is hard for us to understand because we live in a culture that places great value on achievement, fame, and wealth. The people we consider to be the greatest tend to be the ones who have much, not the ones who serve much.*

*Yet Jesus modeled humility, and He calls us to live humbly, too.*

What areas of your life is it difficult for you to practice humility? Why?

*My favorite definition for humility is that humility isn't thinking less of ourselves, it's thinking of ourselves less. Put in an equation, humility means you > me.*

What are some practical ways that you can practice humility toward others in your everyday routine?

*Every step of the way, in every single encounter, Jesus responded to people with grace and humility. He did not demand worship or flaunt His divinity. He wasn't concerned with gaining wealth and power. Instead, He humbly served others.*

Find 3 verses in the bible that describe or talk about humility. Write the reference with the verse below:

APRIL 4TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ HUMILITY - PT THREE

“But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.”

Luke 8:15

## **Reality Check**

Read Matthew 20:20–23. Highlight or underline anything that stands out to you.

*The woman in this story is Salome. She was the mother of James and John, two of the first men that Jesus called to be among His twelve disciples. They had seen Jesus perform miracles and heard Him preach on the kingdom of God. They believed that Jesus would one day rule the earth as king. Salome’s request was for her sons to have power, prestige, and authority once Jesus sat on a physical throne.*

Read Jesus’ response in Matthew 20:23–28. Highlight or underline anything that stands out to you.

Summarize Jesus’ response in one sentence:

*Here’s the big idea: “But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (vv. 26–28).*

*The way to be great is to serve.*

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*The way to be great is to serve.*

*We need to hear this often to get it through our thick skulls. God has called us to a way of living that feels upside down and topsy-turvy. We don't get ahead by following Salome's lead and asking for positions of power. We get ahead by following Jesus' lead and serving others.*

Can you think of some of the ways Jesus' humility was demonstrated?

Read Philippians 2:5-11

*Did Salome learn the lessons that Jesus came to teach?*

*You can find out for yourself by reading [Mark 15:37-41](#) and [16:1](#).*

*I'm less concerned with Salome and more concerned with you and me.*

*Do we know we serve a Savior who came to serve and not to be served? Do we understand that doing the same is what it takes to live like Christ? Not just once in awhile, not just when it's convenient, but every day in a million ways that no one will likely thank us for?*

What has God taught you about humility and serving others?

APRIL 8TH

# Women

NEW TESTAMENT WOMEN

ENCOUNTER W/ HUMILITY - PT FOUR

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop."

Luke 8:15

## **Your Response**

What is something you have learned from Salome's story?

*I want to leave you with what I think just might be C.S. Lewis' most beautiful word picture ever:*

*In the Christian story, God . . . comes down, down from the heights of absolute being into time and space, down into humanity, down to the very roots and seabed of the humanity which He Himself created. But He goes down to come up again and bring ruined sinners up with Him . . . one may think of a diver, first reducing himself to nakedness, then glancing in midair, then gone with a splash, vanished, rushing down through green and warm water into black and cold water, down through increasing pressure into the death-like region of ooze and slime and old decay. And then up again, back to color and light, his lungs almost bursting till suddenly he breaks the surface again holding in his hand the dripping precious thing that he went down to recover.*

How does it make you feel to know that God humbled himself into the form of man just so that he could have an eternal relationship with you?