



# Sermon Growth Guide

**June 15, 2025**

**There is Love**

**Luke 7:11-17**

**Key Verse:** Luke 7:13

“Love is willing the good for the other even at the sacrifice of the self.”

**Big Idea:** Love is willing the good for the other even at the sacrifice of the self.

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## Foundations

This week we start our sermon series, “In the Face of Jesus.”

We hear of the face of God multiple times in the Bible. Think of the blessing found in Numbers, “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

When the Bible speaks of “the face,” it can often represent presence, identity, relational closeness or direct attention. When we think of the face of Jesus, then, we recognize Jesus’ identity and acknowledge His presence. This week, we see Love in His face.

The widow in this passage was also blessed to see love in Jesus. Widows at this time would have been dependent on their son to care for them. Without her son, this widow was facing an uncertain future. Jesus saw her predicament and helped her in the way only He could. Later, James would summon believers with, “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress...”

Jesus paved the way in looking after a widow in the most tangible way. He looked on her with love as he admonished her not to cry, and he showed love as he healed her son. He went on to show His love as He laid down His life.

## Understanding God’s Word

Together, read Luke 7:11-17. This passage follows another where Jesus heals. Why are so many healings part of Jesus’ ministry? Why would Jesus have had abundant compassion on this widow? What would it have meant for both crowds (the one following Jesus and the one following the widow), to see Jesus touch a coffin and purposely make Himself unclean?

## Applying God’s Word

In this passage, Jesus saw the widow, recognized her pain, spoke to her and then helped her – all part of loving her. Which part of loving others comes hardest to you? Do you ever require something before loving someone? Why or why not? Pastor Tim reminds us that love is willing the good for the other at the sacrifice of the self. Does your love ever stop at a certain point?

## Witnessing God’s Word

An older Christian song reminds “they’ll know we are Christians by our love.” We reflect Jesus. Jesus was love. How are you reflecting Jesus’ love today?