



Step 2: Prepare for the Unexpected

(1 Kings 17:17-24; Luke 7:11-17)

What God does?

A. Compassion (Psalm 116:5 - NIV)

The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.

B. Blessing (Ephesians 1:3)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, . . .

C. Wholeness (Colossians 2:9-10)

For in [Jesus] the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in [Jesus], who is the head of all rule and authority.

1 Kings 17:17-24: After this the son of the woman (The Widow of Zarephath), the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸ And she said to Elijah, "What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!" ¹⁹ And he said to her, "Give me your son." And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰ And he cried to the Lord, "O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?" ²¹ Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the Lord, "O Lord my God, let this child's life come into him again." ²² And the Lord listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³ And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, "See, your son lives." ²⁴ And the woman said to Elijah, "Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth."

Luke 7:11-17: Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹² 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. ¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." ¹⁴ Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." ¹⁵ And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶ Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" ¹⁷ And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

Discussion Questions:

1. The two passages on this sheet are great examples of God's compassion on display. Can you think of any other examples of God's compassion on display in the Bible? Discuss.
2. When Jesus raises the widow's son from the dead it met three of her needs (Emotional, Economic, and Relational). Have you had a season where you recognized Jesus supernaturally meeting one of these needs in your life? Explain.
3. Read Col. 2:9-10. We all want wholeness! God's Word is clear: "Christ is the all-sufficient fullness of life and salvation for Christians." (NIVBTSB) Discuss what that means in your life and pray together for a deeper understanding of the wholeness that only Jesus can bring to your lives.