



# IMMANUEL CHURCH

**Conversation Starter:** Hole, Heart, Help  
**March 19, 2017**

**Opening Questions:**

- Why do you think we naturally tend to hold hurting people at arms length? What are we afraid of when it comes to people experiencing despair?
- Do you ever fear that God holds you at arms length when you've lost something or someone? Do you ever wonder if his heart feels anything toward you? Sure, maybe he cares, and provides for you, but does his heart break when yours does?

**Looking at Scripture:**

- Read **Luke 7:11-17**... Who would have been your primary concern in a situation like the one Jesus finds himself in? Would you have worried about the widow or the thousand others that were watching your every move?
- When was the last time your heart overflowed with compassion for someone? Can you imagine Jesus feeling that for you? Why do we so quickly want to caveat that and label what Jesus possibly feels for us as different from what we might feel for others?
- By touching the dead body, Jesus would have done something religiously frowned upon. Are there people today that our religion seemingly keeps us from engaging with? How did we get to the place where we might see some people as too broken? And why are we sometimes afraid to follow in Jesus' footsteps beyond religion?
- In your own words, what's the correlation between fear and praise? How do the two go hand-in-hand? Why is one necessary for the other?

**Application Questions:**

- The bottom line this week was: **NO ONE IS SO BROKEN THAT JESUS DOESN'T WANT TO HELP THEM.** When you go back and read **Mark 2:15-17** who is Jesus' primary target in his ministry? Does that comfort you or bother you? Where do you fit into all this?
- If we're going to be like Jesus and live the life he wants for us, what are the implications of this miracle on us? What does it say about our primary target? Who we should be focusing on?
- Who in your life needs compassion? What parts of your life might need new life... healing? How have *you* possibly been holding *Jesus* at arms length?

*End your time together praying for one another; pray God renews a right spirit and heart in you for broken people. Pray God brings new life to the broken and dead parts of your own lives so that you can be used by Jesus to express his heart for others.*