

SERMON TOPIC: DRY BONES

SERMON OUTLINE

We all have them at one time or another in our lives . . . a valley of dry bones:

Family Strife, Death of a loved one, A debilitating illness, A surgery or accident from which it seems you will never fully recover. These are times and places in our life when we ask ourselves, "Will I ever be normal again? Will my life ever be the same?"

KEY POINTS

What are your "dry bones"? With what impossible burden have you been saddled? How do you cope? What do you do now?

God lead Ezekiel back and forth among the bones. There was no escaping the situation. God wanted Ezekiel to see it all; to take in all the devastation, the vastness of the problem before him. God lead Ezekiel in taking stock of the situation.

The first order of business is to face the situation squarely. What is the reality with which you must deal? What are your strengths, your weaknesses? What resources do you have at your disposal that will see you through your "valley"?

God told Ezekiel to do something just as God is telling you to do something. Whatever it is, you cannot be an onlooker, a spectator. You've got to be actively involved with God's word for it is through the power of God's word the bones came together. God's word will hold us together in our times of brokenness. The word of God will bring together the events and resources we need to cope. It is God's word in us that makes things happen. The word used here for breath is **ROUAH**. It is also the word for SPIRIT.

It was the "breath" / "spirit" that life came. This is not just a resuscitation story. This is God bringing life where there was no life.

So it is with us! The Spirit of God brings us power, life in Christ Jesus. When we are in the "Spirit" and the "Spirit" is in us, what seems impossible suddenly becomes possible for it is that power, that energy, that force that sees us through the difficulties that Satan and the world throw at us.

BUT, for that to happen, YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF YOUR OWN WAY!!

SUMMARY:

Dry bones can live and what seems impossible is possible through our working with God, following God's word and trusting in God's Spirit.

