

Where Are You? Part II

Echo Church | Week 6 | February 9, 2025 | Rich Saunders Jr.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NKJV)

Introduction

You know those moments when your GPS freaks out and has you all mixed up? You miss the turn, and now it's saying "recalculating." Isn't that the most frustrating thing? You're like, "Where am I?!" Life feels like that sometimes, doesn't it? You look around at your situation, your relationships, even your faith, and you're wondering, "*How did I get here?*" If you've felt lost or stuck, you're in good company.

Ezekiel found himself in a place he didn't pick—the middle of a valley. But this wasn't just any ordinary valley; it was full of *dead bones*! Dry and lifeless. And maybe you're sitting here today feeling like you're right there in that valley. But I've got good news for you—God doesn't leave you stranded! He steps into the middle of wherever you are and begins to work. Ezekiel's story gives us three life-changing truths about where we are, where God meets us, and what happens when He gets to work.

Now ask yourself, *seriously, where am I?*

- **Main Point 1: "From the Valley to the Mirror – Time to Face the Dry Places"**

Text: Ezekiel 37:1-3

- **Subpoint A: *God Puts You in the Valley*** Here's the thing—Ezekiel didn't stumble into the valley by accident. He didn't take a wrong turn on his donkey or something. God *brought* him there (v. 1). Sometimes God leads us into hard places—not because He's cruel, but because He's about to change something in us. Ezekiel had to see the valley for what it was. And maybe God's showing you your "valley" today—not to discourage you, but to prepare you.
- **Subpoint B: *The Bones Are Very Dry*** Ezekiel didn't just say the bones were dry, y'all. He said they were *very dry* (v. 2)! Dead, done, dusted. This wasn't a "maybe we can fix it" kind of situation. Some of you feel like that valley right now—your faith, your marriage, your joy—it's dried up, brittle, gone. But here's the thing with God—He doesn't show you the dry bones to leave you there; He's setting the stage for resurrection.
- **Subpoint C: *"Can These Bones Live?"*** Now watch this. God asks Ezekiel a *crazy* question—"Can these bones live?" (v. 3). You have to imagine Ezekiel looking around at all that death like, "...uh, Lord, You tell me!" Ezekiel's response is genius. He says, "Sovereign Lord, You alone know." Translation? "God, I don't know...but You do!" There's so much freedom in admitting we don't have all the answers because that's when we see God take over.

Main Point 2: "Talk to It! When Speaking Life Sounds Crazy"

Text: Ezekiel 37:4-10

- **Subpoint A: *Prophecy to the Bones*** And then God says something wild... He tells Ezekiel to prophecy to the bones (v. 4). Hold up, wait a minute! He's asking Ezekiel to *speak to dead things*! When's the last time God asked you to believe for a miracle that seemed ridiculous? You don't speak to dead bones unless you know something about the One who makes them live! What are you speaking in your valley right now? Doubt or faith? Hope or despair?
- **Subpoint B: *Building Before Breathing*** Ezekiel does exactly what God says, and suddenly the bones start rattling! Can you hear that noise right now? (v. 7) Snap, crackle, pop! The bones are coming

together, tendons and flesh start forming. But here's the thing—they look “put-together,” but there's still no *breath*. This is important—God will often rebuild the *structure* of your life first before breathing new life into it. It's a process! Don't quit just because your miracle isn't complete yet.

- **Subpoint C: *Calling on the Breath*** And now, God takes Ezekiel to Step 2—prophesy to the *breath* (v. 9). This isn't just a moment of fix-it faith; it's a desperate cry for His Spirit. God's breath represents His Spirit, His power, His life. Sometimes, you've got all the pieces in place, but without God's Spirit, it's still not alive. But when His breath flows in, the dead rise, and the army stands ready. That's the power of the Holy Spirit in your life.

Main Point 3: "Graves to Glory – Restored for More"

Text: Ezekiel 37:11-14

- **Subpoint A: *Hopeless Hearts, But a Hopeful God*** God tells Ezekiel that the bones represent people who've lost all hope (v. 11). They were like, “That's it, we're done, game over.” Ever been there? You feel like your prayer's not working, your situation's not changing, and you're SO close to giving up. This is where God shows up the strongest. It's in the “I'm done” moments that God begins to speak life over us.
- **Subpoint B: *God Will Bring You Out, Not Leave You There*** Come on! Here's the promise—God says, “I'm going to OPEN your graves and bring you OUT of them!” (v. 12). Do you hear the power in that? Hear me—God can bring you out of that depression. God can bring you out of that failure, out of that addiction, out of that brokenness. But He doesn't just stop at “out.” He's also bringing you *back*—back to His promises, back to His plans for your life.
- **Subpoint C: *His Spirit Brings the Win*** The story doesn't end with standing bones. Nope! God promises to *fill* His people with His Spirit (v. 14). Because what good is it to have a body that looks alive if the Spirit of God isn't in it? Restoration is always about revival FOR a reason. When God brings us back to life, it's so we can walk in purpose, empowered by His Spirit every single day.

Conclusion

Okay, now that we've walked through Ezekiel's valley, it's time to ask the most important question. *Where are you?* Not your physical location—your soul's position. Are you stuck in a valley of dry bones? Have you been speaking doubt instead of life? Or maybe you've seen a little progress, but you're waiting for God's breath to fully revive your purpose.

The same God who brought dead bones out of that valley is the same God who wants to breathe into your life today. He's a resurrection God! He's not intimidated by your valley, by your dryness, by your despair. But to see Him work, you've got to start asking the hard questions and responding to His voice.

Pray boldly, asking God to breathe life where hope has died, to bring restoration where things look lost, and to help every person live fully in His power.

Final Word: Wherever you are—valley, mountaintop, or somewhere in between—God knows exactly how to meet you and lead you to resurrection. Dry bones don't scare Him, and neither does your “where.” Can you trust Him to take you from death to life? *Where are you?* And where is He wanting to take you?