



Some final thoughts...

Turn with me in your Bibles to **Ezekiel 37**.

Ezekiel 37:1-10

The nation of Israel was dead – spiritually speaking. Their relationship with God was dry and dusty and stale. There was no life, no vibrancy, and no intimacy. Instead of experiencing the glow and warmth of the everlasting love God promised they were cold.

Marriages and family relationships can sometimes grow cold, sometimes become dry and dusty, and sometimes be void of life and vibrancy and intimacy. I believe we can apply the lessons from this passage in Ezekiel to our relationships.

v. 1-2

These bones were not only dry they were very dry. Can you put yourself in this desert valley alongside of Ezekiel? I imagine a dry desert heat and a scorching wind blowing the sand across these dry bones. The bones are brittle and light. No life.

Some marriages reach stages like this at times; so dry and lifeless. No joy. No intimacy. No spark. No love. It may not be a marriage where a lot of arguing and fighting is going on but there is simply no life. Somehow and somehow the two have drifted apart.

v. 3

The Lord may ask of you the same question: “Can this marriage live?” And we may answer in the same way that Ezekiel did: “Oh Lord God, only You know.” You may find yourself reaching a point at times where you simply don’t know. You don’t necessarily know what’s wrong, you don’t know what happened, and you don’t know how to fix it.

v. 4

The key is in this verse – “**Hear the Word of the Lord.**” If you ever experience a dry time in your marriage or in your other family relationships, hear the Word of the Lord; go to the Word of the Lord. You really have no other place to go. No human institution, no other book in this world, no other counselor, and no other advice you could find will hold a candle to the Word of the Lord. Hear the Word of the Lord.

v. 5-6

If you will hear the Word of the Lord, God will breathe new life into your marriage. He will fill your marriage anew with the joy and the vibrancy and the intimacy and the life it once had. I'll go one step further and promise you that your marriage will be better than ever. Your love for each other will rise to new levels you have never attained before. You will stand in awe of what the Lord has done – and you will know that it was the Lord who healed your relationship. You will know God has done a miraculous work in your life.

v. 7-10

God always does what He says. And God doesn't mess around when He does something. When God and His Word were finished with this valley of dry bones, the result wasn't a rag-tag group of soldiers but instead it was an exceedingly great army.

When you choose to hear the Word of the Lord and do what the Lord says to do, you will not have a run of the mill marriage, but instead you will have an exceedingly great marriage.

But just as this exceedingly great army required hearing the Word of the Lord and doing the Word of the Lord, so too is the same required of you. Hear it and do it.

Let's circle around again and pray.