

Pre-Sermon Devotional Dem Bones, dem bones

Monday

Pray:

Read: Ezekiel 37:1-6

Think about the following:

- 1) What thoughts come to your mind when you see bones?
- 2) What question does God ask Ezekiel?
- 3) What is Ezekiel's response?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you give us life. Not just physical life, but spiritual life as well. Just like Ezekiel, help us to realize that only you can give us abundant life. In Jesus' name, amen.

Tuesday

Pray:

Read: Ezekiel 37:7-14

Think about the following:

- 1) If today's reading were made into a movie, what kind of movie would it be?
- 2) How did Ezekiel's prophecy bring hope to Israel?
- 3) How does this prophecy bring hope to us?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, like the valley of dry bones, we sometimes feel like all is hopeless. Help us to look to you for our hopes and dreams. Give us strength to trust you during hardships. In Jesus name, amen.



Wednesday

Pray:

Read: Matthew 19:23-26

Think about the following:

- 2) Respond to this, "If only I had more money, I could..."
- 3) Why do we admire/envy the rich?
- 4) How does today's reading show us that wealth *doesn't* solve all our problems?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, nothing we do can fully satisfy us. No amount of money or material goods can give us the hope that you alone can give. Help us to remember this important truth and live it each day. In Jesus name, amen.

Thursday

Pray:

Read: Luke 1:37

Think about the following:

- 1) How does this simple verse give us comfort?
- 2) How is it a challenge for us to believe in it?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, all things are possible through you. It is hard for us to trust in this promise. Help me to turn over to you one fear/challenge that I have in my life and trust that you will provide that need. In Jesus name, amen.

Friday

Pray:

Read: Romans 8:9-11

Think about the following:

- 1) Today's reading talks about the "Spirit". Do we, as physical humans, have a hard time thinking about our soul?
- 2) What is the promise in today's reading?
- 3) What is the value of this promise?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you have given us the precious gift of eternal life with you. Forgive us when we take this gift for granted. Help us to praise you daily for all that you have done for us. In Jesus name, amen.



Saturday

Pray:

Read: Ezekiel 37:1-14 (again)

Think about the following:

- 1) Think about current things in your life that seem hopeless (a valley of dry bones).
- 2) Give these things to God in prayer.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, help me to trust in you. Take all the things in my life that are causing me worries and help me to rely fully on your grace. In Jesus name, amen.