**Faith Foundations 2023-2024**

**The Book of Ezekiel**

**Session 23—Ezekiel 37**

**For most of Faith Foundations this year, we have been reading biblical passages that many of us have probably either never read before or perhaps only looked at once or twice. Ezekiel is not a book that most of us had read much of until this year. However, in this session, we have finally arrived at the one chapter of Ezekiel with which everyone is familiar: chapter 37. Even many non-Christians at least know about the subject matter of this chapter, thanks to the old spiritual song “Dem Bones.” Ezekiel 37 is also frequently read around Easter time, and if you know what the chapter is about, you can easily see why. This chapter contains one of the most famous images in the entire Bible, one that gives great hope and comfort to the people of God, both His Old Testament people of Israel and the church of His Son Jesus Christ in the New Testament age.**

**1.) Read Ezekiel 37:1-6. Where did God take Ezekiel? What did Ezekiel see there?**

**2.) What did God ask Ezekiel, and how did Ezekiel respond?**

**3.) What did God tell Ezekiel to do?**

**4.) Read Ezekiel 37:7-10. What happened when Ezekiel obeyed God’s instructions?**

**5.) What further instructions did God give to Ezekiel? What happened when Ezekiel did these things?**

**6.) Read Ezekiel 37:11-14. What do the bones in this vision represent? How do they illustrate the predicament of the Israelites?**

**7.) How does this vision metaphorically show what God will do for His people of Israel?**

**8.) Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-57, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, and Revelation 20:11-15. How will God literally fulfill this prophecy from Ezekiel 37:1-14 on the last day?**

**9.) Read Ezekiel 37:15-23. In verses 15-17, what does God tell Ezekiel to do?**

**10.) Why does God use these two specific names for the two sticks?**

**11.) What is the meaning of the sign act with the sticks? How does this symbol show what God will do for His people?**

**12.) According to verse 23, how will God’s people act after He has saved them?**

**13.) Read Ezekiel 37:24-28. Whom will God appoint to rule over His people? How does He describe this person?**

**14.) Where will God’s people dwell? How long will they dwell there?**

**15.) What kind of a covenant will God make with His people? How long will it last, and what will it entail?**

**16.) How did God keep His promise to dwell with His people in the Old Testament? How did He then keep this promise in an even greater way in the New Testament age?**

**17.) When will God make good on these promises in all of their fullness?**

**This famous chapter of Ezekiel gives God’s people His greatest promises yet: He will raise them from death as a people and restore their fortunes in their ancestral land. However, these promises still have yet to be completely fulfilled. They were partially fulfilled when God returned His people from exile in Babylon, they were fulfilled even more when Jesus Christ came to save humanity, and they will be completely fulfilled on the last day when Jesus returns. He will raise all people from the dead and grant believers eternal life in His Father’s kingdom. And thankfully, because He has claimed us as His own, we will be numbered among those who are saved from sin and death.**