



## Group Guide

# Power to Restore

*September 8, 2024*

**Main Passage: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

## Theological Theme

God can do the impossible when we trust, believe, and obey Him.

## Introduction

- 1. ? When have you experienced a situation like the one described here?
- 2. ? How did your steps become more or less confident as you proceeded?

## 1. The Vision (Ezekiel 37:1-3)

After months of being in exile with the children of Israel, Ezekiel was given a vision to encourage and revive the hope of restoration for God's people. While this experience was given to Ezekiel for the Israelites in exile, it has implications for us today as well.

- 1. ? How can you relate to being in a place you didn't want to be or wrongly believing you have more time to change course as the Israelites might have believed despite the warnings they were given?
- 2. ? What is the difference in letting God lead you and seeking to do your own will with the approval of God?
- 3. ? Application: What are the places in your life that seem dead with no hope of restoration?

## 2. The Miracle (Ezekiel 37:4-10)

God responded by commanding Ezekiel to put his faith to action and prophesy to the bones. At this moment, Ezekiel had the choice of who he was going to listen to and follow. Would he obey the Lord or listen to his own thoughts or the voice of the world that likely told him this made no sense. When we face similar opportunities to trust God despite what we see, or conform to the world's ways, we must decide who we will listen to also.

- ① When have you experienced the choice between listening to the world or obeying God? What thoughts go through your mind in those times?
- ① When have you been witness to the unexpected work of God? How did that impact you or others?
- ① Application: What does this passage show you about the power and purpose of our obedience to God?

### 3. The Explanation (Ezekiel 37:11-14)

In these verses, God gave Ezekiel the explanation for what he witnessed. It isn't a stretch to acknowledge that the Israelites had been feeling dry, dead, and desperate for hope amid their exile and struggles. This vision validated their circumstances while revealing that restoration was coming. God was going to bring life from death and do what only He could.

- ① Where do you currently feel dry, dead, and without much reason for hope?
- ① How would Ezekiel's vision give the people reason to persevere in seeking the Lord and His restoration?
- ① Application: How can you seek to rely on the power of God instead of on your own strength?

### Conclusion

- ① What situation or relationship do you need God to bring life into now?
- ① How can you stop relying on your own strength and put your trust in the Spirit of God? How can we encourage one another in this as a group?
- ① What has God told you to do that you've delayed in obeying? How will you respond?