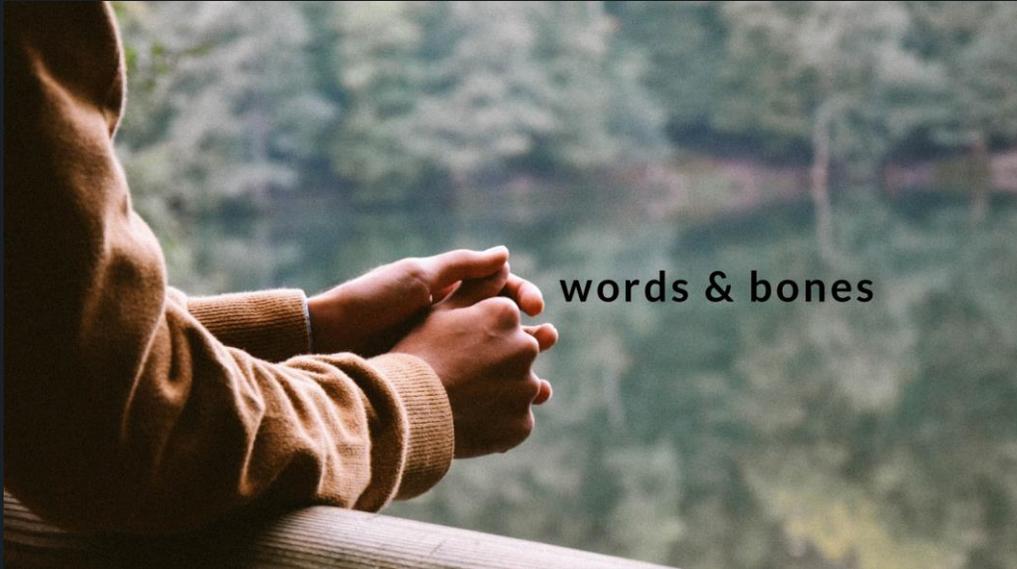


# SUN CITY SERMON NOTES

13.10.19



We are being strengthened and trained for the days to come. We need to be prepared for it, with convictions. Convictions hold us strong in the face of opposition. We must consolidate what we stand for, stand for truth, Godly conviction moves us, to do right, and holds us back, from doing wrong. Time to enlarge your capacity. Extend your tent pegs. Keep your joy in the tough time.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 NKJV

In Hebrew Ezekiel means "God Strengthens". Ezekiel was an Old Testament prophet who heard directly from God for instruction, encouragement, warning, call to repentance and more. Mostly living on the edge and in exile. Ezekiel was being shown by the Lord, in the spirit, perhaps a vision, a valley of dry bones.

Ezekiel 37:1-3 "The hand of the Lord came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. And He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' So I answered, "Oh Lord God, You know.'

The first thing Ezekiel saw was unburied bones. It was shame for the Israelites to look upon unburied bones, and he was looking at a valley full of dry bones. God told Ezekiel to use his voice, to speak life, breath life – directly into the dry bones. We tell our little ones... use your words. The Word of God is in us, in our hearts and in our mouths. The power of life and death is in the tongue.

Stimulating  
Wholesome Thinking

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1. The Word of God is in us, in our hearts and in our mouths. The power of life and death is in the tongue.
2. We are not to stop in that place of dry bones and no life. Gods not finished with you yet, praise in the midst of it!
3. You are a carrier of the message of Jesus Christ, wake up, step up, step forward.

Ezekiel 37:4-6 Again He said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'Oh dry bones hear the word of the Lord! Thus says the Lord God to these bones: 'Surely I will cause breath to enter into you and you shall live. I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.'

Ezekiel was to speak to the dry bones, then with his breath, breathe on them, and see God restore, rebuild, reform and raise up an army of bones, to stand strong. Remember how God breathed into Adam and he came to life. We can carry within us, brokenness, hurts, shame, rejection, grief. Everyone is broken at some time! God sees our brokenness. He knows of every blow we have taken, physical, mental and verbal.

Grief will stay with us all our lives until we face it and run to God - losing your job, business not happening, seeing a loved one die, parent sibling, a child. What is on the inside, doesn't always show on the outside. Jesus heals us from the inside to the outside. Jesus heals the broken hearted, he sets the captives free. Stop trying to fix it, in His hands it fixed. Whatever you think about most, grows on the inside, only God can put you back together again. We are not to stop in that place of dry bones and no life! Gods not finished with you yet! Praise in the midst of it.

Don't stop in that place, don't settle there! Stop running from God. Jesus is getting us ready for His return. Our God has no limits - He is our Limitless God

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Matt 19:26 Jesus said. With man this is impossible but with God, all things are possible

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

John's Gospel is about God's love. He selects many miracles, certain "signs" which show most clearly, who Jesus was. Jesus-The Word- the Living Expression-The Messenger. God's word in the Old Testament shows his powerful creativity, revelation, redemption and his care for his people. In the New Testament we have a new view of God – God himself in flesh. Jesus is the Word. He is the message, the eternal word, the creative word, the word made visible. We are his messengers, carrying his word. We express ourselves in words!

Jesus is the living expression of God, with God and fully God. Jesus is the light of the world – for all humanity. Jesus brings the light of eternal life – he is the light of truth. The True Light. John the Baptist came, to show the way to the True Light – to help people believe.

John 1:14 Jesus became man and lived among us. In Greek it reads ...he pitched his tent among us. In Exodus, the Lord told Moses, to make a sanctuary for him, so that God could dwell among them. This was the Tent of Meetings or the Tabernacle. As born-again believers, we are the temple and Jesus lives in us. However, we can carry within us brokenness, hurts, shame, rejection, grief. God sees our brokenness. He knows of every blow we have taken, physical, mental and verbal. But over and above that, God sees us as His chosen treasure. A jewel of great value. Take care of your health, mental & physical.

But over and above that, God sees you as His chosen treasure. He has wired us to love Him first. We are renewed and reformed by the Lord daily – changed daily, as we believe His word – it renews our minds and renews our thinking. Restored to who we were meant to be, in God's divine plan for each of us. Dry bones that have now become part of a mighty army of Believers in Jesus Christ. He is building an army out of bones! Putting us together, getting us to stand, to sing and breathe life, into those situations - through the message of Jesus, we carry. God puts his breath in us, so we have the choice to speak his words – words that bring life. He puts life in us.

He can put the pieces back together in your life. You may have been broken in the past or you might be right in the middle of the brokenness and feel like, those dry, disconnected bones, that Ezekiel saw in the valley, however, you are **God's** chosen treasure

1 Peter 2:9 TPT “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light’

Peter writes to encourage us when facing hard times. An army of people belonging to God. He urges us to live lives that reflect God’s own holiness, be the light in a dark world. We are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people.

There is a Blessing in the name of Jesus that covers us with his person, character, authority and supernatural power. The word “bless” in Hebrew barakh (baw rook) means to kneel down or kneel before. “To do” or “to give something of value to another”. Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 3:28 said “Blessed be the God of Sharrach, Meshach & Abed-Nego”. Daniel 6:10 Kneel down on his knees three times a day to pray and give thanks to God. “The Lord bless you” is our Heavenly Father coming close and stretching out His arms to us. This blessing contains everything from a Limitless God to us. These blessings are:

His promises and gifts; a hedge of thorny protection protecting you, your loved ones and all your possession; bringing you to fulfil your God given destiny and purpose; provides you with perfect love, never leaving you, bringing everything He has to your aid; supporting you with His divine embrace and His entire being; He has set in place all you need to be whole and complete so you can walk in victory, moment by moment by the power of the Holy Spirit.

God says that every believer is a priest and a king, His unique, special treasure, a treasure of great importance and of great value to Him. A treasure above all other treasures. Take what the word says and walk in it. That means shutting down the negative thoughts about yourself or the situation you are in as a carrier of the message of Jesus Christ, wake up, step up, step forward.

Ephesians 1:3 NKJV *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”.*