

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, March 26, 2023 (Lent 5)

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Discussion Starters

1. What is significant about the dryness of these bones?
2. The Hebrew language uses the word "ruach" for "wind," "breath" and "spirit." How are these three translations related, and what significance do those translations have in this passage?
3. What two steps are necessary for bringing these dry bones back to life? Why are two steps necessary? Why not do it all at once?
4. How does this passage impact your understanding of what it means to be "filled with the spirit?"
5. What does this vision communicate to the people of Israel? To us today?

Romans 8:6-11

Discussion Starters

1. What two options does this text offer?
2. Where is the spiritual battle for the control of a person's life fought?
3. Since we know that we cannot be saved by doing good works, what then is our motive for changing our lives?
4. What does it mean to have the "Spirit of God living in you?"

John 11:1-45

Discussion Starters

1. Why does Jesus deliberately delay, even though He knows the situation is serious? What does that say about Jesus?
2. How do you think Mary and Martha felt when they learned that Jesus had finally come? What do their responses tell you about each of them?
3. Since Jesus knew that He was going to raise Lazarus from the dead, why did He weep?
4. Verses 25-26 are often used at funeral services to give hope for the grieving family. How would these words inspire hope?
5. Who in this story demonstrates faith in Jesus?
6. Who in this story do you most closely relate to?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?