

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2010

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part Two



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Ezekiel and the Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37

Memory Verse

Because of what God has done, you belong to Christ Jesus. He has become God's wisdom for us. He makes us right with God. He makes us holy and sets us free.
(I Corinthians 1:30 NIRV)

Goals

1. Understand that Ezekiel obeyed God.
2. Recognize that God is the Creator.
3. Learn that God wanted to offer hope to Israel.
4. Understand that Israel was captive in a far away land.

Last week we learned that Israel's leaders had not done what they were supposed to do. They had not helped the weak or sick. They had not looked for the lost. God would punish the leaders of Israel. He promised to provide for and to tend to His sheep. God promised to send a shepherd to lead His people. God promised to send a Messiah, a shepherd. That shepherd would be from the family of David.

Read the Bible

READ: Ezekiel 37:1-14 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin With Prayer

Ezekiel had something unusual happen to him. God took Ezekiel away from his home and took him to the middle of a valley. The valley was full of bones that were spread all over the plain. The bones were very dry. (Ezekiel 37:1-2)

Then God asked Ezekiel, "Son of man, can these bones live?" (Ezekiel 37:3) What do you think you would say, if you were asked that question?

Ezekiel responded that only God could know that. God told Ezekiel to prophesy (to speak) to the dry bones. Ezekiel was to tell the dry bones to listen to God's message. (Ezekiel 37:4) Can you imagine speaking to dead bones? But that is what God told Ezekiel to do.

God told the dry bones that He would put them together again. He would put meat and skin on the bones. God was going to breathe life into the bones. (Ezekiel 37:5-9)

We know that God is the Creator of all things. (Genesis 1) Nothing is impossible for Him. (Mark 10:27) Ezekiel knew that, too.

Ezekiel did what God said. The bones came alive and stood up. There were so many that they were like a huge army. God said that the bones were the people of Israel. They were saying that they had no hope. (Ezekiel 37:10-11) Israel felt that way because they were still captive in a far away land. They were slaves.

Ezekiel, and the Dry Bones — Bible Facts

1. God took Ezekiel to a valley full of dry bones.
2. Ezekiel was to speak to the dry bones.
3. God was going to breathe life into the bones.
4. God promised to return Israel to their land.

God gave Ezekiel a message for Israel. God promised to return Israel back to their land. God said they would know that He is God and that they are His people. (Ezekiel 37:12-14)

God also promised to bring the tribes of Ephraim and Judah together. In addition, God promised to gather Israel from all the places where they were exiled (sent away). They would never again be divided. They would be one nation again. They would not worship idols. They would never do wrong. God also said that He would clean them and make them pure. “They will be my people. And I will be their God.” (Ezekiel 37:18-23 NIV) God promises to make us holy and pure because of what Jesus did (died for our sins and rose from the dead). (1 Corinthians 1:30)

God said that Israel would follow His laws. He added, “I will make a covenant [promise] with them. It promises to give them peace. The covenant will last forever. I will make them my people.” (Ezekiel 37:24-28 NIV) God sent Jesus so that we can know His peace. Jesus said, “I leave my peace with you. I give my peace to you. I do not give it to you as the world does. Do not let your hearts be troubled. And do not be afraid.” (John 14:27 NIV)

Review

1. **Where did God take Ezekiel ?** (God took Ezekiel to a valley full of dry bones.)
2. **What was Ezekiel supposed to do?** (Ezekiel was to speak to the dry bones.)
3. **What did God tell Ezekiel to say?** (God was going to breathe life into the bones.)
4. **What else did God promise to do for Israel?** (God promised to return Israel to their land.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus came so that we can know God and know His peace. If we ask God to forgive our sins, He will. We can know God’s peace, if we invite Him to be a part of our lives. (John 3:16; Romans 10:9-10; John 14:27)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so we can know His peace.
3. Ask God to help you do what is right.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to do what is right.

Application

God wanted to offer hope to Israel because they were captive in a foreign land. God took Ezekiel to a valley of dry bones and told him to speak to the dry bones. Ezekiel obeyed God. God said that He would make the bones live. God is the Creator and nothing is impossible for Him. God wants us to know His peace, so He sent Jesus. Do you know Him?

Planning for Next Week

Daniel Does Right — Daniel 1

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Ezekiel 37:1-14 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: If possible, bring Little People® Builders.

Ezekiel had something strange happen to him. God took Ezekiel away from his home and took him to the middle of a valley. The valley was full of bones that were spread all over the plain. The bones were very dry. (Ezekiel 37:1-2)

Then God asked Ezekiel, “Son of man, can these bones live?” (Ezekiel 37:3) What do you think you would say, if you were asked that question?

Ezekiel said that only God could know that. God told Ezekiel to speak to the dry bones. Ezekiel was to tell the dry bones to listen to God’s message. (Ezekiel 37:4) Can you imagine speaking to dead bones? But that is what God told Ezekiel to do.

Ezekiel did what God asked him to do. God told the dry bones that He would put them together again. He would put meat and skin on the bones. God was going to breathe life into the bones. (Ezekiel 37:5-9)

We know that God is the Creator of all things. (Genesis 1) Nothing is impossible for Him. (Mark 10:27) Ezekiel knew that, too.

God wants us to know Him. He sent Jesus to help us know Him and to help do what is right.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus so we can know Him.
3. Ask God to help you do what is right.

Memory verse for younger children

[Jesus] makes us right with God. I Corinthians 1:30

Learning Activities

- Memory verse activity** — Bring coloring pictures of children playing. Write the Bible verse at the bottom.

- Test your memory** — Bring paper dolls and clothes. As you tell the story, put clothes on the paper doll.

- Taste activity** — Make people out of Twizzlers® or candy that can be twisted to form people. Use Jelly beans for the head, hands, and feet.

Bring gingerbread cookies and decorate with icing.

- Think about it** — Israel felt hopeless. God sent Ezekiel to give them a message of hope. Talk about how we can depend on God.

- Touch activity** — If possible bring Little People® Builders.

Make clay people.

Bring paper dolls and clothes for the children to play.

Make animal balloons.

- Run and play** — Play a game where the children form a circle holding hands. Then they spread out and lay down. They will be the dry bones. They must lay silently until God's message has been given to them. One of the children will be Ezekiel. Ezekiel will give God's message to the dry bones.

Play tag. Let one child be "It." The children will run away so as not to be touched. If they are touched they have to lay down and become dry bones. When everyone has been touched, let another child be "It."

- Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to do what is right.

- Sing** — Sing "Dry Bones," "Revive Us Again," or another song related to the story.

- Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids who did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver coloring pages with the Bible verse to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

Because of what God
has done, you belong
to Christ Jesus.

He has become
God's wisdom for us.

He makes us right
with God. He makes
us holy and
sets us free.

I Corinthians 1:30

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

God

gave

Ezekiel

a message

Word Search

E S T W B G W I G R J F Y F T
G R H S A V N I K S H D S M R
H T K P O T L P T K G T E Y F
S A R O T A E R C P O S H G D
L L Z M K P I R S K R R P K B
E I E S I E K R S M E E O F P
Z V A E M S E C T P G H R R O
E E Y M R A Z A K P N T P S R
R B E M S S E G A S S E M T P
F L Z B T M T K E Z F G D N O
D S E N O B M O S N T O N R S
R R P M K C K Z F N F T P M S
Y E L L A V M R P C S G R R D
W T O N R B S Y K P R D R S P

EZEKIEL

BONES

TOGETHER

CREATOR

VALLEY

PROPHECY

MEAT

ALIVE

DRY

MESSAGE

SKIN

ARMY

Word Search

E	S	T	W	B	G	W	I	G	R	J	F	Y	F	T
G	R	H	S	A	V	N	I	K	S	H	D	S	M	R
H	T	K	P	O	T	L	P	T	K	G	T	E	Y	F
S	A	R	O	T	A	E	R	C	P	O	S	H	G	D
L	L	Z	M	K	P	I	R	S	K	R	R	P	K	B
E	I	E	S	I	E	K	R	S	M	E	E	O	F	P
Z	V	A	E	M	S	E	C	T	P	G	H	R	R	O
E	E	Y	M	R	A	Z	A	K	P	N	T	P	S	R
R	B	E	M	S	S	E	G	A	S	S	E	M	T	P
F	L	Z	B	T	M	T	K	E	Z	F	G	D	N	O
D	S	E	N	O	B	M	O	S	N	T	O	N	R	S
R	R	P	M	K	C	K	Z	F	N	F	T	P	M	S
Y	E	L	L	A	V	M	R	P	C	S	G	R	R	D
W	T	O	N	R	B	S	Y	K	P	R	D	R	S	P

EZEKIEL
 BONES
 TOGETHER
 CREATOR

VALLEY
 PROPHECY
 MEAT
 ALIVE

DRY
 MESSAGE
 SKIN
 ARMY

Word Search

D S P R K M C R E A T O R
D L R O S F G D P G C R C
T V M E A T H M P S K I N
C M L D F N M R H N W T S
G K S K B O N E S F R B M
R M T S C N G F B M S D H
M R S D G K F D P R S A F
V A L L E Y B K M R D G S
M N P K M D H R T D F S R
S D S H D R Y K R D S B D
N N P G B M F S E F A G S
H F P B M C K H S M R T S

VALLEY

DRY

BONES

MEAT

SKIN

CREATOR

Word Search

D S P R K M C R E A T O R
D L R O S F G D P G C R C
T V M E A T H M P S K I N
C M L D F N M R H N W T S
G K S K B O N E S F R B M
R M T S C N G F B M S D H
M R S D G K F D P R S A F
V A L L E Y B K M R D G S
M N P K M D H R T D F S R
S D S H D R Y K R D S B D
N N P G B M F S E F A G S
H F P B M C K H S M R T S

VALLEY

DRY

BONES

MEAT

SKIN

CREATOR

Anagram

INNSTROIAACH

EDNO

GLOENB

HSTRIC

EJUSS

OMDISW

HIGRT

YOLH

EFER

Anagram

CORINTHIANS

DONE

BELONG

CHRIST

JESUS

WISDOM

RIGHT

HOLY

FREE