

Sunday 9th August, 2026

Service for Swansea & Charlestown Presbyterian Church Welcome & Prayer

King David wrote in Psalm 145 about the Lord *"I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever. ² Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever. ³ Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. ⁴ One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. ⁵ They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty— and I will meditate on your wonderful works. ⁶ They tell of the power of your awesome works & I will proclaim your great deeds. ⁷ They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness."*

Let us come worship the Lord this morning, let us pray...

Dear Lord and Father of mankind forgive our foolish ways. For we have forgotten who is the boss. We have neglected to worship the one who rules the world and instead we have exalted ourselves, we have put others before you & we have failed to worship in thought word and deed this last week. Please forgive us. And place within us your Holy Spirit so that we want to put you in the pre-eminent spot in our lives. We want to worship you, serve you, love you and follow you in all that we do and say. Draw us closer to you this day through word and song. Help us to be committed more and more to your ways and to your thoughts and to your will. And then send us out to people the people of God in your place and your time so that all may see that you are our King and that you are worthy of all praise for ever and ever. Amen.

Song – Only a Holy God [Only A Holy God- City Alight - YouTube](#)

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| 1. Who else commands all the hosts of heaven | 3. Who else could rescue me from my failing |
| Who else could make every king bow down | Who else would offer His only Son |
| Who else can whisper and darkness trembles | Who else invites me to call Him Father |
| Only a Holy God | Only a Holy God |
| What other beauty demands such praises | Only my Holy God! |
| What other splendour outshines the sun | |
| What other majesty rules with justice | |
| Only a Holy God | |

*Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God*

2. What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God
Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out, sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

Bible Reading – Ezekiel 37:1-10 (NIV)

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on

the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. 3 He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know." 4 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! 5 This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. 6 I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'" 7 So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. 8 I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. 9 Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" 10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

Announcements

Focus for the month: Mission /Evangelism. For many of us we are hesitant to evangelise our friends and family. If that is you please pray that God would replace our fear with confidence, reminding us that he is the one who opens hearts, while we are simply called to speak faithfully. Ask the Lord to help us love people more than we fear their opinion, so that the hope we have in Christ naturally overflows into our conversations. Thank God that he delights to use ordinary believers in his mission, and pray that he would give each of us courage to take the next opportunity to share the gospel with grace and truth.

Invitation Service. One thing we could do is to invite our friends to join us at Church on Sunday 30th August. We will be running 'Bring a Friend' services at all of our services. Who can you be praying to come along?

Discover. Another option is to invite your friend (and come yourself) to our DISCOVER course. Five Thursday nights from 27th August @ the Church starting from 7pm. For more details speak to Jannah.

God's Word for God's World (Rhema 99.7, Sunday 7:30am). This weekend we will be broadcasting our 485 show – which means we have been going for nearly 10 years. Our minds are beginning to turn to what we should do to mark our 500th show. Any ideas. If so please speak to Stephen.

Charlestown Work Day. Saturday 21st August from 8am to 3pm. Lots of work to do from tidying up the kitchen, to painting, to running repairs, to more major work. Something for every age and skill level. Come for an hour, come for as long as you can. Hopefully we can move closer to finishing off all the jobs that accumulated with our new redevelopment as well as some running repairs on our older buildings

Next preaching programme – Swansea/Charlestown AM. Light for the Lost

16/8	Christ sends	
23/8	Believers speak	Colossians 4:2-6
30/8	Come home	Luke 15

Future Conferences

- **RECHARGE.** Recharge Men's Conference | Saturday 12th September 7:30am-1:00pm Theme – Futureproof Men: Living now with the end in mind. Speaker – Steve McAlpine. Early bird \$40 and under-25 \$20. For details see Greg W or visit <https://www.hgm.org.au/recharge>
- **Women's Conference | Saturday 19th September** (if room) 9:00am - 1:00pm Presbyterian Women are holding a conference at Epping Presbyterian on Meeting Jesus. More info <https://ttw.pcnswwomen.org.au> Our church will also play the recorded talks Saturday 17th October 9:00-1:00pm. See our Women's Ministry Committee members for more details.

Surplus doors available for free. Viewing and pick up by mutual agreement with the contact person Doug Smiley, either by SMS 0419491981 or email raycliff2024@gmail.com

Data Breach. You might've noticed a scam email going around, with an impersonation of 'Stephen' or 'David from Hamilton' asking you to confidentially send Amazon gift cards so they can give them to vulnerable members of the congregation. Unfortunately, a member of the congregation has had their personal email account compromised. Whilst the breach didn't come from Charlestown Presbyterian Church's systems, it has come from a member of the church, so we feel it be necessary that you are

informed. It seems the hacker only got names and email addresses. But you should exercise caution when receiving strange emails. For more information please check our regular Sunday email

Song – O Breath of Life [O Breath Of Life \(Acoustic Song Leading Video\) // Emu Music - YouTube](#)

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| <p>1. O Breath of life, come sweeping through
us,
Revive Your church with life and power.
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,
And fit Your church to meet this hour.</p> | <p>2. O Wind of God, come bend us, break us,
Till humbly we confess our need;
Then in Your tenderness remake us,
Revive, restore, for this we plead.</p> |
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Chorus

Chorus: O Breath of love, come breathe
within,
Renewing thought and will and heart;
Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win,
Revive Your church in every part.

3. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating
While harvest fields are vast and ripe?
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,
Equip Your church to spread the light.

Chorus

Pastoral Prayer Points

Pray for Uzbekistan (Population 36 million. Christians 395,000). Despite being a secular state, Uzbekistan can be an enormously **challenging** place for its small pocket of Christians to express and share their faith. Churches can be **hindered** by cumbersome restrictions. Pray for converts from Islam who face pressure from family, community, and government will receive God's grace and hope. Church leaders often come under surveillance. Pray they can lead others without harassment or harm. Non-registered churches are targeted and raided. Ask God to protect believers who risk so much to meet and worship Him.

Pray for Vanuatu. Thank God for the work done recently on our shared project to complete the manse ready for occupation. Pray for Ambae as it copes with the increased activity of its local volcano. Pray for leaders that will be faithful to God's word and relate it to their everchanging world. Pray for a team of people from our Church ready and eager to minister to Hog Harbour and Walaha in January.

Pray for increasing use of AI. As artificial intelligence becomes more influential in our society, give us wisdom to use every new technology in ways that honour Christ, uphold truth, and love our neighbour. Protect us from placing our confidence in human innovation rather than in your sovereign rule, and help us remember that true wisdom, hope, and salvation are found in Christ alone. Help us to use the rapid advances in AI to create new opportunities for the spread of the gospel, while giving your church discernment, integrity, and courage to be faithful witnesses in a changing world.

Pray for our radio programme God's Word for God's World (Rhema Sunday 7:30am). Thank the Lord that we have been able to broadcast for almost 10 years. Pray that God's word would change hearts and draw people closer to Jesus. Pray that it would reach people that the regular Church currently doesn't reach.

Bible Reading – 2 Thessalonians 3:6-18

11 Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13 Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. 14 I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"

Sermon: Hope for the Hopeless (Stephen T)

Sometimes when I am travelling by car in the country, I come across a Church that is falling apart. The brickwork is broken. No maintenance has been done on it for years. It's been condemned by the council.

Physically it looks completely dead. Now at one time this Church was pulsating with life. The word was preached there. Songs were song there. Prayers were lifted up there. Fellowship was enjoyed there. But now all that remains is a dead building.

But do you know some Church fellowships are also a bit like that. At one time they too were alive & full of life. Generations of families came and worshipped, prayed, cared for each other & reached out to their communities. But now that Church is as dead as this Church building. People might still come and go but the word is not preached. Love is not shown. Hearts are not changed. Mission is not important. Evangelism is not practised. The Church might be still be physically present but its spiritually dead.

And some people that we know are like that as well. Some people are alive physically but dead spiritually. They get up and go to work, they provide for their families, they play sport, they are involved in community groups, they are good people but they are spiritually dead. They don't look dead but they are. Alive on the outside but spiritually dead on the inside.

What about you? Are you alive on the inside or dead. Are you growing in your faith or growing stale in your faith? And what about your loved ones, your spouse, your kids, your parents, your friends? What about your workmates? Your sporting buddies? Dead or alive?

And what about our Church? What about us? A great heritage, (a new building even) but have we lost our life? Are we filled with God's Holy Spirit? Are we being changed by the word? On the outside we seem to be doing, OK? But is there still life in the old dog?

Slide 2

Ezekiel 37 is picture of how God can raise the dead, how God can bring back life? Yes, in this circumstance it is the people of Israel, whose spiritual life was as dead as the dodo. But in this chapter, we can also see what God can do to his people, to his church, to you and me if the word and the spirit would just be unleashed within us, within our Church and even within our nation and world. God can bring life to any dry bones. So, let's see what I mean...

Slide 3

1. The Problem (verses 1-3)

"The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2 He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry."

Now what a gruesome sight. Ezekiel is literally picked up and placed in the middle of Death Valley. Ezekiel is given a tour of a massive graveyard, except none of these bodies have been buried. It is probably the site of a battle that didn't go well at all for the people of God. And there are bones as far as the eye can see. Not skeletons still relatively intact, but scattered, separated bones showing that the defeat was so humiliating that no one had been able to come back and bury the dead. And so, the bodies had been left to the birds and wild beasts.

It's a complete and utter tragedy. A place where there is no hope. I think the closest parallel that we might have seen would be a picture of no man's land in WW1. Or maybe bodies piled high in a gas chamber. Or images of hundreds of bloated corpses after a Tsunami. Whenever I see images like this, I shudder. This is horrendous. This is tragic. This is hopeless.

Slide 4

So, we have this powerful image before us and it is pointing to a terrible truth. That is explained to Ezekiel in verse 11. ¹¹*"Then he said to me: 'Son of man, **these bones are the people of Israel**. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and **our hope is gone**; we are cut off.'"*

Before us then is a scene of God's people. At this point in the book of Ezekiel, they have been under God's judgement for 12 years. They have been removed from their homes, their country, their livelihoods. The city of Jerusalem had been completely destroyed. The Temple raised and they are now slaves in a foreign land; & even though Ezekiel has been preaching to them for 6 years they are still like those bones. Scattered. Separated. Hopeless.

And if that is the state for God's people, then it must be even worse for everyone else. At least God's people received God's favour in the past. And he had sent them kings and priests and prophets throughout their history. But now **even they have no hope**. Death is their destiny. And their role of being a light to the nations is also in tatters.

Slide 5

And the New Testament says something similar about us. *"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions & sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world & of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.*

Slide 6

³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh & following its desires & thoughts. Like the rest we were by nature deserving of wrath"

So, this is not just a picture of a terrible drought or a nation who has turned away from their God, it is also a picture of us. A not so flattering picture of you & me. We have all turned out backs on the Lord. We have all gone our own way. We have all taken the highway to hell or at least gone in the direction of Death Valley. Without God we are scattered, separated, hopeless as well.

Now that's not what the glossy magazines will tell you. Not what the internet influencer will say to us. Not what the movies or the advertisers or the social commentators would describe. They will tell you if you wear these clothes, make this amount of money, live in that sort of a house, or travel to this exotic location, you will be alive, you will feel truly alive. But the Bible says without God we are dead. Physically alive, but spiritually dead.

Slide 7

But then the Spirit of the Lord asks Ezekiel a question, *"Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."* Can these bones live? Duh! The obvious answer is No! Of course, they can't live at all. Nothing can bring them back to life. They are dead.

In the words of the famous Monty Python sketch about the Dead parrot. *"This parrot is no more! He has ceased to be! 'E's expired & gone to meet 'is maker! 'E's a stiff! Bereft of life, 'e rests in peace! If you hadn't nailed 'im to the perch 'e'd be pushing up the daisies! 'Is metabolic processes are now 'istory! 'E's off the twig! 'E's kicked the bucket, 'e's shuffled off 'is mortal coil, ... and joined the bleedin' choir invisible!! **This is an ex-parrot!**"*

But. But Ezekiel has been given a question by God. He has heard God speak to Him. And so, he doesn't give God the obvious answer. "No Lord, these bones can't live." Because He has a relationship with God. He knows how strong and powerful God is. He's convinced that God is the God of life and death. And so just as in the past God brought people back to life through the ministries of the prophets Elijah & Elisha. God is able to bring life to these bones

But does he want to? That's the real question. So, Ezekiel hedges his bets with his answer: *"Sovereign LORD, you alone know."* Lord God you are the only one can do such a thing and I don't really know whether you want to give these guys another chance. So, you alone know. Yes, God does know. And yes, God can bring new life to these bones. And so, the Lord moves

Slide 8

2. From the problem to the paradigm (verses 4-10)

⁴ “Prophesy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!’ ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breathe enter you & you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.”

God will bring new life to these dead bones but surprisingly he doesn’t do it all on his own. He wants Ezekiel to play a part in this process. Ezekiel must **prophesy**; he must preach to these dead bones. Now what a crazy thing to ask Ezekiel to do?

The Lord doesn’t ask him to give these bones a decent burial, to show these people some respect at last. Nor does the Lord ask Ezekiel to preach to the people around them and warn them of the dangers of forgetting about the Lord and turning out just like these dry bones. The Lord instead tells him to preach, to preach to these dry, lifeless bones!

Poor Ezekiel. It is bad enough to preach to people who occasionally fall asleep while you are speaking but to preach to the dead. What a waste of time. What a hopeless task. For as one preacher has pointed out “*ears have bones but skeletons do not have ears.*” So, you would think that God would put flesh on these bones, he would bring them back to life, before telling Ezekiel to speak to them. Afterall how can someone hear without ears?

Slide 9

And the answer is that it is the word of God, not the preacher, that gives life. And what these bones lack was life and so Ezekiel does what he is told. ⁷ “So, I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.”

Ezekiel preached. With ordinary words. No magic. No tricks up his sleeve. Just the living power of the word of the living God and the bones begin to stir. In the words of the old Negro Spiritual the leg bone connected to the knee bone, the knee bone connected to the thigh bone, the thigh bone connected to the hip bone. The bones hear the word of the Lord.

And you and I need to remember that. There is power in the word of the Lord. It may seem old fashioned. It may seem out of date. It might have been replaced in the worlds view with Ted Talks, with YouTube clips, with AI chatbots. Its conclusions might seem on the wrong side of history. But God’s word changes its hearers, even when they don’t have ears to hear like these skeletons! And here God’s word turns the skeletons into real bodies. But you need to notice, that the bodies are still dead.

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⁹ “Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’”

Slide 11

¹⁰ “So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.”

God urges Ezekiel to call upon the breath to come and bring life. You see along with the preaching there must also be prayer. Ezekiel must learn that he cannot bring about the life required. The preacher cannot change anyone. Only God can. So, accompanying the preaching must also be the praying. We might sow but it is only God that brings the growth.

Slide 12

And God does that through the sending of the Spirit. The word ‘breath’ here is also translated ‘wind’ or ‘spirit’. And so, in response to the preaching and the praying, the Spirit enters into these dry bones. ¹⁰ “So, I

prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.”

It is the Spirit that gives life. This is exactly what Jesus teaches Nicodemus. *"The wind blows wherever it pleases... so it is with everyone born of the Spirit."* (John 3) Regeneration is supernatural. You see no argument is clever enough. No preacher is gifted enough. No parent is persuasive enough. If they were, then that person might hear a more persuasive argument, or meet a more gifted speaker, and be persuaded out of faith in the future.

Friends it is only the Spirit who gives life. And we see that happen again on the day of Pentecost, don't we? The same elements that lead to revival here in Ezekial 37 are also there in the first two chapters of the book of Acts. The disciples pray (Acts 1:14), they preach (Acts 2:14-39) and the power work of the Holy Spirit comes and thousands of people come into the kingdom.

That's God's paradigm. That's His revival strategy. No frills, no tricks, no gimmicks, no spin. Go into all the world, preach Christ, pray for new life for dead sinners in Jesus, depend on the Holy Spirit & leave it up to the Spirit of the Lord to bring God's people into the kingdom.

Slide 13

And notice here that the preaching, the prayer and the power of the Spirit leads to an army. A vast army. Not a debating club or a beach party. These bones were raised for a purpose. They are dressed in the armour of God & ready to serve the Lord where ever he sends them.

Notice how the idea of an army perfectly fits the context of Ezekiel 37. Israel's army had been defeated, scattered and exiled. Israel is now no longer functioning as God's covenant people. Humanly speaking, they were finished. Yet God promises not merely to revive isolated individuals but to restore His people as a united force for His glory. The valley of dry bones becomes a mighty army because God's ultimate purpose is not simply to save you or me but to gather, strengthen and send **His chosen people** into the world for His glory.

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3. The problem, the paradigm and lastly the promise (verses 11-14)

11 "Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' 12 Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them;

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I will bring you back to the land of Israel... I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD."

The Lord is the one who can turn death into life, rigor mortis into resurrection. New life is not just reformation but transformation. It is not just resuscitation it is resurrection. And it comes to those who were previously dead **as a gift of grace**.

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Think about it? Those bones, didn't do anything to be brought **back to life**, they were not just as good as dead, in fact they were well and truly dead. And so, the only way they are going to be brought back to life is through the power of God. And that's what God wants to do for his people. He wants to bring **life to the lifeless**. He wants to give **hope to the hopeless**. He wants to bring the prodigal home and he wants to draw those who are far away back into his warm embrace.

And so, the picture that this passage ends with here is that of life **and land**. You have your place in this world. A place where you belong. A home where you are safe and secure. And that is because God puts his Spirit within us. He takes up residence within us. We are now never alone. We are now never on our own.

We are now never unequipped for the task at hand. For the one who made life and controls life takes up residence within us enabling us to enjoy life.

In our passage we are seeing the impossible become possible. Israel, dried up & abandoned because of their sin, would find God's restoration and life once more. God will open their graves, put them in their own land, put His Spirit within them and all of this because God loves them.

But let me ask you one final question. When, when will this happen? Or when did it happen? When do we see the dead come back to life? When do we see the Spirit of God unleashed on his people? When does God's word bring that sort of transformation in God's people?

Well, we see it in the life of Jesus, don't we? At the town gate of the village of Nain Jesus met a funeral procession. The only son of a widow had died and they were taking him out for burial. But Jesus raised him from the dead and gave him back to his mother (Luke 7). Then, in Mark's gospel we have Jairus come to seek help from Jesus because his daughter was sick but Jesus got there too late, for she was now dead. But he wasn't really too late, he took her by the hand and said "My child, get up." And she was raised to life again.

And then there was Lazarus in the tomb for four days and yet Jesus rolls the stone away and tells him to come out and out he comes with his grave clothes still wrapped around him. And then Jesus says *"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."*

Jesus has the power over life and death. Jesus, God's Son can bring about a resurrection for others and then for himself. Because on the third day he too rose from dead. After taking on the sins of the world. After ascending to the world of the dead. After staying in the grave three whole days. Jesus comes back from the dead. And he says to those who believe in him. *"Very truly I tell you, whoever **hears my word** and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.*

You get it? The word of God and the Spirit of God not only raised Jesus from the dead. But anyone who is connected with Christ, who is in Christ, who is trusting in their salvation through Christ, they also get it to live. They get a place called home. They get God's Spirit to live within them. The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is available to us.

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And so, when Jesus was raised from the dead, in an echo to Ezekiel 37, he comes into a locked room and he breathes on his followers. And he says "Receive the Holy Spirit." In the words of preacher Christopher Wright *"The Lord of life himself, freshly risen to his feet from where he had lain among the bones of the dead, adopts simultaneously the posture of God Himself in commanding the breath of the Spirit to come upon the disciples."*

Jesus in his grace offers to us, his disciples, not just life but hope. A living hope. A hope that is strong enough to trust in the midst of the darkest days. And a life that is wonderful enough to bring direction to even the most difficult days. A hope of life that works for both the life to come and the life we live right now. A hope that spills into our home situation, our work situation, our friend's situation, in fact into every situation. Sometimes we can look around at our world and wonder is there any hope for it? It is just one train crash – war after war, tragedy after tragedy. And then we look at the state of the Church and at times it too looks so weak and pathetic. We argue amongst ourselves rather than reach out to the lost. We are consumed with our own lives and we forget that our purpose is to be the army of God, taking the good news to the nations.

Sometimes we look at the people around us and they are so convinced that God doesn't exist, that Jesus isn't relevant, that Christianity is a dangerous fairy tale and we wonder can these dead bones live? Can God really change that person?? Can God revive that Church? Can God resurrect our country? Can God truly transform that world?

Yes, he can. Through the preaching of God's word. Through the prayers of his people and through the power of the Spirit, he brought you and I back to life, he has transformed this Church in a matter of decades. He has brought hope to millions who were hopeless. And he promises to do it again.

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The call in Ezekiel 37 is in the words of preacher David Strain *"for us to go and stand in the graveyard of the world, preach Christ to the dry bones, pray down the breath of life, plead for the outpouring of the Spirit, and listen out for the sound of rattling and the blowing of the breath of life sweeping through us, reviving the church with life and power. Can these dry bones live? O Lord God, You know, but O Lord God, send us Your Spirit"*

Song: Christ our hope in life & death <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oibli1rz7mw>

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to Him belong

Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ in which we stand

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
"Christ, He lives, Christ, He lives!"
And what reward will Heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore (forevermore)

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death (oh, sing)

Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore? The rock of Christ
Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

Benediction. *10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. (Ezekiel 37:10)*