Ezekiel 37

This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "O 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.

Ezekiel 37:12

Readings this week:

S Ezekiel 36: 1-15
M Ezekiel 36: 16-38
T Ezekiel 37: 1-14
W Ezekiel 37: 15-28
Th Ezekiel 39: 21-29
F Ezekiel 21: 18-27
S Psalm 79

Read Ezekiel 37:1-14 together. Talk about what you think it means and then answer the following questions.

What do the bones represent?

How do you think Ezekiel felt when he realised what the prophecy meant? How would it have changed his attitude to his life? What would he say to us now, if he were here today and could see what is happening in the world? What would his message be to us?

Why do you think they are so dry?

What happened to the bones in Ezekiel's vision?

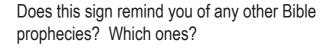
What did the vision mean?

Do you think this prophecy has been fulfilled yet? Why?



Now read verses 15-28. What should be written on the sticks in the picture?

What do you think this sign means?





Think about how impossible the 'resurrection of the nation of Israel must have seemed for over 2,500 years; yet it happened. Does the resurrection of the dead seem as impossible?

Digging Deeper

Nearly 1000 years before, God had said his people would be scattered amongst other nations but he always gave them hope of being re-gathered.

Deuteronomy 28:64-68 and Deuteronomy 30:1-5 What do the Jewish people have to do? Leviticus 26:38-39 and 40-44

Jesus also foretold the distress of the nation of Israel and also showed that there would be and end to it. What did he say? Luke 21:23-24

What other event is linked to this time? Verse 27 Later in his life Ezekiel had another vision. This time of a temple in the future. It is sometimes difficult to work out what all of this vision means but read Chapter 43:1-4. What does this seem to be referring to?

Pray
that
you will
have faith to
believe in the
mighty power of God.