***Ezekiel 37:1-4 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. 2Then 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. 3And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” So I answered, “O Lord God, You know.” 4Again He said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!***

Revival – this is a time to be reinvigorated, revitalized, reenergized, and reanimated for the Kingdom of God. God has much work for us to do, much for us to learn, and many people for us to impact. We pursue the work of Christ because we have been saved by the work of Christ – the work He willing did, knowing that some would reject Him, some would live apathetically after accepting Him, yet He went to the Cross knowing that some would accept Him and yield great fruit – 30, 60, 100 fold. Let’s all be the 100 fold.

We’re with Ezekiel this morning in the valley of dry bones. This is an exciting story. In verse 1 we read - *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.*Within this story, the bones represent Israel and how God will restore the nation. God’s hand comes upon Ezekiel and brings him, by way of the Spirit, to the middle of a valley, filled with dry bones. My friends, in this time of Revival, this is exactly what we are praying for – we want God’s hand to come upon us, so we feel it, so we know it. We want it to rest upon this church and every soul here this morning. We want to feel the thrill of God’s presence restoring us and reinvigorating us for the work ahead. We want Him to inspire us – bring us out in the spirit – not a little spirit Lord, not a sprinkling of spirit Lord, but an overflowing outpouring of the spirit. We can do nothing of the Spirit if we are not first in the Spirit. And we don’t want Him to set us down on a mountain top high, but in the midst of the valley filled with suffering and dry bones, filled with those that need the very breath of life spoken over them. Is our heart ready to be set in the valley of shadow of death that we might speak the Hope of Jesus? Let’s get excited for Revival.

Verse 2 *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.* God causes Ezekiel to see the hopelessness in the valley from every angle. Many of us have been dry bones in the valley. Many of us have been in that valley and cried out to God and been delivered. We understand because we’ve been there. The bones are very dry. Ezekiel passes all around and he feels compassion for the hopelessness he sees. We read in Matthew 9:36 - *But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.* When Jesus saw the weary and scattered, He felt compassion. Likewise, there are so many in valleys, hopeless and hurting, weary and scattered, not knowing the Savior. Do we feel compassion this morning? Will we be taken by the Spirit into the valley?

Verse 3 *And He said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” So I answered, “O Lord God, You know.”* Can these bones live? Ezekiel knows that God can do all things and he submits to God’s will. God, You know. Likewise, we know that God can change any situation, heal any sickness, bring light into the deepest darkness, but only God knows the heart. We can come to valley, we can come in the Spirit, we can plant the seed and water the ground, but only God gives the increase – some 30, some 60, some 100 fold. We must tend the field.

Verse 4 - *Again He said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, ‘O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!* God tells Ezekiel to prophesy to these bones. This has the idea of speak the prophetic word to these dry bones. What is the prophetic word? Jesus. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* John 1:1. 2 Peter 1:19 - *And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.* We too are called to speak the Truth of Jesus, the Prophetic Word, over the dry bones of the valleys of this world. The Truth of Jesus is Bread for the hungry, Water for the thirsty, and Hope for the hopeless, rest for the weary, a home for the scattered. May God inspire us to speak that prophetic word, that some of the dry bones, the ones God knows will drink the water and eat the bread, will receive Jesus and live! That alone makes Revival a heavenly blessing.

This week, let’s not pray for the ease of mountaintops, or the fullness of kitchen tabletops, but for the opportunity of valleys, fields white unto the harvest. Let’s prepare ourselves to receive the Word and share the Word. Let’s be reinvigorated for the work of Christ. Matthew 9:37-38 says, *Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.* ***38****Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”* Let’s be the laborers, with the hand of the Lord upon us, brought by the Spirit, and set in the midst of this world, truly a valley of dry bones. God knows where life awaits. May we be bold to speak, that He might breathe life into His churches and every dry bone willing to receive the Truth of Jesus.