## Dry Bones

## Pastor Jacob Heine Christ the Rock, Rockford

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Ephesians 2:1-10

Dried up, dead, worthless bones. That is what Ezekiel saw. There was no life or worth in them. They were a valley of nameless, lost to the ages, bones. They had no identity left. They had no future to speak of. For as far as the eye could see, all Ezekiel could see what nothing. No hope. No future. No identity. Nothing. It was only through the power of God, working through the proclamation of His word, sending His Spirit to bring life to these bones that there was hope. And in this God gave them their identity back, as children of God. In this God gave them hope. In this God gave them a future. In this God gave them a name, Israel.

Dried up, dead, worthless bones. That is what we see. There is no life or worth in anyone. The earth is a valley of nameless, lost to the ages, bones. We have no identity left. We have no future to speak of. For as far as the eye can see, all we can see is nothing. No hope. No future. No identity. Nothing. It is only through the power of God, working through the proclamation of the Word, Jesus Christ, with sin paid for by his death, and death destroyed by his resurrection, sending His spirit to bring life to your bones. And in this God gave you an identity back, as children of God. In this God gave you hope. In this God gave you a future. In this God gave you a name, Jesus.

It is all a gift. Life returned, because God is working in you.