



Part 3: Lower than Low

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*Life's lowest moments create the greatest opportunity
to see Jesus as the source of all hope.*

The Lowlights of Ezekiel's Calling

- Eat a scroll (Ezekiel 3:1-3)
- Carry an unpopular and unwanted message to a hard-headed and rebellious people (Ezekiel 3:7-8)
- Be a public object lesson - play "fort" in the public market while lying on your left side for 390 days and your right side for 40 days (Ezekiel 4)
- Shave yourself bald (Ezekiel 5)
 - 1/3 of the hair - destroy by fire
 - 1/3 of the hair - destroy by the sword
 - 1/3 of the hair - scatter to the wind
 - But keep a few hairs in a safe place... a remnant...
- Dig a hole in a wall and escape (Ezekiel 12)
- Watch your wife die (Ezekiel 24)

A Low Vision from a Low Spot

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. 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. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know. – Ezekiel 37:1-3

In the low moment:

- Speak the Word of God to the bones (vs. 4-5)
- Declare God's power to the bones (vs. 9-10)
- Identify the bones (vs. 11a)
- Listen to the bones (vs. 11b)

Listen to the “bones” in Matthew 21:

A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet of Nazareth in Galilee.

– Matthew 21:8-11

A Low Moment for Jesus

Jesus knew that “hosanna” and “crucify” would bring about the same salvation.

Parallels

- Same question: *who can save us?*
- Same cry: *our bones are dried up and our hope is gone.*
- Same answer: *only God can breathe life into dead bones.*
- Same hope: *“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” – Mark 10:45*

Next Steps

Easter is next weekend! As you make final connections with people you’ve invited (or plan to invite), pray that they will come to a service with you and experience Jesus in a deeply personal way. God knows what they need and he can breathe life into dead bones. Just do your part and trust him to do the rest!

Small Group Questions

- 1) What’s the craziest thing you’ve ever done in your life? (Think bungee jumping, eating bugs, skydiving, cliff diving, driving the Guide...)
- 2) Has God ever asked you to do something unusual for him? What was it?
- 3) What are your “bones” telling you? Are there dead parts of your life that you want to come back to life again?
- 4) In less than a week’s time, the same people who cried out, “Hosanna!” to Jesus shouted, “Crucify him!” In what ways do we do the same thing?
- 5) How will you focus on Jesus during Holy Week (the week before Easter)?
- 6) How can we pray for you today and throughout the week?