

# Lent

at MIDCITY CHURCH  
Finding The Assurance of God's Forgiveness



## I. CHECK-IN

- Check-in with each other. How is life? What is happening?
- Reflect on last week's challenge: *"Recite Psalm 23 at least once every day this week. As each day passes take note of how your perspective towards any struggles or hardships change."*

## V. PRAYER

Spend some time sharing prayer requests with each other. As the small group leader, we ask that you do two things:

1. write them down
2. ask someone to pray

## IV. CHALLENGE

Take a moment to assess your life and what worst case scenarios you are currently worried about. In what ways does this scripture help you face those worries?

Be prepared to share your thoughts with the group next week.

## III. DISCUSSION

- What stands out to you from the scripture above?
- The Israelites were experiencing their worst possible scenario when this scripture was written. Have you ever felt like you were in the worst possible scenario? What was that experience like?
- Ezekiel sees a bunch of very dry bones come back to life. Have you ever experienced the same in your life? i.e. Found yourself in your worst possible scenario and eventually saw yourself overcome?
- Looking back at when you felt like you were in the worst case scenario, in what ways do you notice that God was present, reminding you that he would help you overcome?

## II. SCRIPTURE

### Ezekiel 37:1-14:

The Lord's power overcame me, and while I was in the Lord's spirit, he led me out and set me down in the middle of a certain valley. It was full of bones. He led me through them all around, and I saw that there were a great many of them on the valley floor, and they were very dry. He asked me, "Human one, can these bones live again?" I said, "Lord God, only you know." He said to me, "Prophecy over these bones and say to them, Dry bones, hear the Lord's word! The Lord God proclaims to these bones: I am about to breath in you, and you will live again. I will put sinews on you, place flesh on you, and cover you with skin. When I put breath in you, and you come to life, you will know that I am the Lord." I prophesied just as I was commanded. There was a great noise as I was prophesying, then a great quaking, and the bones came together, bone by bone. When I looked, suddenly there were sinews on them. The flesh appeared, and then they were covered over with skin. But there was still no breath in them. He said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; Prophecy, human one! Say to the breath, The Lord God proclaims: Come from the four winds, breath! Breathe into these dead bodies and let them live." I prophesied just as he commanded me. When the breath entered them, they came to life and stood on their feet, and extraordinarily large company. He said to me, "Human one, these bones are the entire house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope has perished. We are completely finished.' So now, prophesy and say to them, The Lord God proclaims: I am opening up your graves! I will raise you up from your graves, my people, and I will bring you to Israel's fertile land. You will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you up from your graves, my people. I will put my breath in you, and you will live. I will plant you on your fertile land, and you will know that I am the Lord. I have spoken, and I will do it. This is what the Lord says."