

Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, May 15th "The Spirit of Adoption"

Ezekiel 37:1-14 – NIV

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. ² 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. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'"

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'"¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: 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. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"

Romans 8:14-17 – NIV

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

1. The Gift of Security (Rom 8:14)
2. The Gift of Authority (Rom 8:15)
3. The Gift of Intimacy (Rom 8:15)
4. The Gift of Assurance (Rom 8:16)
5. The Gift of an Inheritance (Rom 8:17)

Takeaway: Life in the spirit is realized in community, as we learn to live as the family of God.

Questions:

1. What is one question that comes to mind, when you think of the role of the Holy Spirit?
2. Pastor Dave briefly discussed a few different occurrences where the Spirit of God is mentioned in the Old Testament. Which of the three descriptions (wind, breath, speaker) resonates with you the most? Why?
3. In Romans 8:15, Paul writes, "by him (the Spirit) we cry, 'Abba, Father.'" "Abba, Father" might be a difficult name for some people to use when referring to God. What other names might you use to communicate what Paul is trying to get across?
4. Spend some time reflecting on what it means to be "co-heirs with Christ." How might you respond to the idea of sharing an inheritance with Jesus?

Sermon link: <https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20220515.mp3>

Service video: <https://youtu.be/pvh14zmBUR8>