

The Power Of Connecting

DAY:

Monday

TITLE:

Bones Coming Together

KEY VERSE:

Ezekiel 37:7 -- "So I prophesied as I was commanded and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to bone."

REFLECTION:

I love this vision God gave Ezekiel because it's not just ancient history -- it's happening right now. When I look at that valley of dry bones, I see people who've been scattered by hurt, isolation, and disconnection. Maybe that's you this morning. Maybe life has left you feeling dry, overlooked, forgotten. But here's what thrills my heart: God didn't leave those bones scattered. He spoke, and they came together. That's what He does. He calls scattered, lonely, hurting people into community, into connection, into His body. You were never meant to lie alone in that valley. God's voice is still rattling bones back to life today, calling us toward one another, breathing His Spirit into us as we connect. The army of God rises when we rise together.

PRAYER:

Lord, wherever I've been scattered and dry, breathe on me again today. Pull me toward Your people and remind me that I'm never meant to do life alone. In Jesus' name, amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Reach out to one person from your church today -- a text, a call, or a quick message -- simply to say, "I'm thinking of you."

DAY:

Tuesday

TITLE:

Every Joint Supplies

KEY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:16 -- "From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love."

REFLECTION:

I want you to see something powerful in this verse. Every joint supplies. Not just the pastor. Not just the worship team. Not just the long-time members. Every single part of the body -- including you -- has a supply to give. Maybe your supply is a smile that nobody else can replicate. Maybe it's a word of encouragement you've been holding back because you weren't sure it would matter. It matters. God didn't wire you to sit in a pew and observe life happening around you. He placed something inside you that someone else desperately needs. When you hold it back, the whole body is weaker for it. But when you release what God put in you --

when you connect, contribute, and pour out -- the whole body grows stronger. Your supply is not optional. It's essential.

PRAYER:

Jesus, show me today what supply You've placed in me that someone else needs. Give me the courage to stop holding back and start giving out. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Identify one specific gift, skill, or quality you have -- write it down -- and find one way to offer it to someone in your church community this week.

DAY:

Wednesday

TITLE:

The Great Disconnecter Has No Power Here

KEY VERSE:

John 13:34 -- "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

REFLECTION:

I've said it plainly and I'll say it again -- Satan is the great disconnecter. His entire strategy against you is to isolate you, wound you, and convince you that you're better off alone. He uses church hurt, misunderstandings, unreturned loans, and even unanswered text messages to draw a circle around you and keep everyone else out. But Jesus -- our Jesus -- is the great connector. And He didn't suggest that we love one another. He commanded it. That means when someone hurts you, love is still the command. When you feel overlooked, love is still the command. When forgiveness feels impossible, love is still the command. Because love is the weapon that defeats every disconnecting strategy of the enemy. When we love one another the way Jesus loves us, the world stops and takes notice. That's our testimony. That's our power.

PRAYER:

Lord, I confess that hurt has sometimes made me pull back from people You placed in my life. Heal those places in me today and teach me to love the way You love. In Jesus' name, amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Think of one person who hurt or disappointed you. Choose to pray a genuine blessing over them today -- even if only for sixty seconds.

DAY:

Thursday

TITLE:

Life Is in the People

KEY VERSE:

John 13:35 -- "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

REFLECTION:

I've stood at many bedsides over the years, and I can tell you with absolute certainty -- nobody lying there has ever asked for their diploma or their car keys. Every single time, they want the people who mean most to them. That tells me something God already knew when He designed us: life is not in your stuff. Life is not in your success, your salary, or your social media followers. Life is in relationships. Life is in the people you've walked with, prayed with, laughed with, and loved. God designed you for connection because He Himself is a relational God -- Father, Son, Holy Spirit in perfect community forever. He calls Himself our Father, calls Jesus our brother, calls us sons and daughters. This is a family. And families stay connected. Don't let anything -- hurt, busyness, pride -- convince you that you don't need your people.

PRAYER:

Father, thank You for making me part of Your family. Help me to treasure the relationships You've given me and to invest in people the way You invest in me. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Have a real, unhurried conversation with someone today -- no phones, no multitasking. Give them your full, undivided attention for at least ten minutes.

DAY:

Friday

TITLE:

Rivers of Living Water Flow Through Connection

KEY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:15 -- "But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head -- Christ."

REFLECTION:

Here's what excites me most about this whole message: you cannot grow up in Christ while staying disconnected from His body. It's impossible. The two go together. Growing in Jesus means growing in the body, and growing in the body means getting intentionally, consistently, lovingly connected to your brothers and sisters. Jesus said rivers of living water would flow out of you. But rivers have to flow somewhere -- they flow toward people. When you connect with someone who is hurting, that river reaches them. When you encourage someone who has nearly given up, that river reaches them. When you show up, show love, and show grace -- even when it costs you something -- you become the hands and voice of Jesus to a lonely, disconnected world. This is what the church is for. This is why we gather. Let the river flow freely through you today.

PRAYER:

Jesus, I want to be someone through whom Your life flows freely to others. Fill me up so that I naturally overflow onto everyone around me. Use me today. Amen.

DAILY ACTION:

Before you leave church this Sunday, make a genuine effort to meet one person you've never spoken to before -- learn their name and one thing about their life.