

# **First Baptist Church – Odessa**

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“I Expect Him to Believe the Word of God”**

### **“12 Expectations of Your Pastoral Leadership” - Pt. 10**

Ezekiel 37:1-14 & Selected

*“But He (Jesus) answered, ‘It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”*

Matthew 4:4

#### **I. There is no life apart from the Word of God!**

See verses 1-6

- **The origin of life is found in God’s Word.**
- **The meaning of life is found in God’s Word.**
- **The purpose of life is found in God’s Word.**

*“The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.” Ecclesiastes 12:13*

*“And He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.’” Matthew 22:37*

*“The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” Westminster Shorter Catechism*

#### **II. There is no real confidence in life apart from believing the Word of God!**

See verses 7-10

## God's Word is the Source of...

- **My greatest hope!**

*"Then He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'"*

Vs. 11

- **My greatest strength!**

*"Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I will open your graves, and raise you up from your graves, O my people."* Vs. 12a

- **My greatest peace!**

*"And will bring you into the land of Israel."* Vs. 12b

- **My greatest knowledge!**

*"And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people."*

Vs. 13

*"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."* Romans 10:17

- **My greatest promise!**

*"And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD."* Vs. 14

See Romans 10:9-13

### **III. There is no real satisfaction in life apart from heeding the Word of God!**

*"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."* Matthew 4:4