

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Tapping into the Power Source

With Andrew Hurrell - Trustee Board Chair
February 23, 2020



How do you tap into the power of prayer?

Ezekiel 37:1-10 (NLT) – Valley of the Dry Bones

The Lord took hold of me, and I was carried away by the Spirit of the Lord to a valley filled with bones. 2 He led me all around among the bones that covered the valley floor. They were scattered everywhere across the ground and were completely dried out. 3 Then he asked me, “Son of man, can these bones become living people again?” “O Sovereign Lord,” I replied, “you alone know the answer to that.” 4 Then he said to me, “Speak a prophetic message to these bones and say, ‘Dry bones, listen to the word of the Lord! 5 This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again! 6 I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.’” 7 So I spoke this message, just as he told me. Suddenly as I spoke, there was a rattling noise all across the valley. The bones of each body came together and attached themselves as complete skeletons. 8 Then as I watched, muscles and flesh formed over the bones. Then skin formed to cover their bodies, but they still had no breath in them. 9 Then he said to me, “Speak a prophetic message to the winds, son of man. Speak a prophetic message and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breathe into these dead bodies so they may live again.’” 10 So I spoke the message as he commanded me, and breath came into their bodies. They all came to life and stood up on their feet—a great army.

- **SOVEREIGN: God initiates the restoration.**

Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person. Genesis 2:7 (NLT)

RU’ACH (pronounced ROO-wah) = The Spirit or Breath of God.

- **SYSTEMATIC: God’s plan is ordered.**

1 Cor. 12:12 “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.”

Eph 4:16 “From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”

- **SUFFICIENT: God’s power is sufficient for his will to be done and his kingdom come.**

Eph. 2:4-5 “But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!)”

John 20:22 “Then he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’”

Big Idea: Your situation is never too grim, so invite God in.



Sequoia Impact Communities are where we live out our identity as a Family of Servants on Mission.

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**Tapping into the Power Source
#8 of 8 - Feb. 23, 2020**

1) Take some time to discuss how your IC has been and will live out the Kingdom of Jesus together.

- In what ways have we been living like family recently? How will we live out our family identity in the coming week?
- How have we lived as servants to one another or to our world this past week? What needs or opportunities to serve is God is asking us to lean into?
- How have we lived on mission where we live, work, play, or went this past week? Who do we know that needs to hear the good news of Jesus?

2) How did the message resonate with you? What questions or comments did it raise for you?

3) How have you personally witnessed how breathing is connected with life? Or do you have “Breathing difficulties”?

4) In your life, who has ‘breathed’ life-giving words to you? What was the situation? How did these words ‘give you life’? Explain.

5) Review Genesis 2:7, Ezekiel 36:25-27, Ezekiel 37:4-6,10. How does the “BREATH” of God create or restore life?

6) After the resurrection Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit onto his disciples (see John 20:22). How are the disciples changed by this? How can we be changed by receiving the same Holy Spirit?

If you want to practice your “breathing skills”. Check out the daily “Encounter” podcast (<https://podtail.com/en/podcast/encounter/>) to focus on your breathing and being more intentional about receiving what God has for you.

Applications:

RECEIVE: Have you heard the words of life (i.e. the Gospel) spoken to you? Have you received them to get new life in Christ.

PRACTICE: Rehearse the full Gospel Story and your personal testimony. Do this regularly amongst your Impact Community. Practice provides fluency.

REFLECT: Who can YOU touch with “BREATH TAG” today? Who you close enough to reach with the words of life. Who needs to be ‘brought back to life’? Who needs a bit of hope? Who is looking/feeling like they are just (dry) bones?

SHARE: Share these words of life with people in your life, wherever you live, work, play and go.

REMEMBER: Every time you play “BREATH TAG” you will get better at it, deeper breaths, more “RU’ACH” to come out.



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