



This weekend Ian Henderson preached on the subject of internet pornography and shared some thoughts on the Valley of Dry Bones from Ezekiel 37. Below are some notes and questions from Ian to accompany his talks which are on the church website and also some links to the **Visible Ministries** website and the **Naked Truth Project**. As a church we want to build a resource base and a considered response to this major influence in our world, and also to work out ways of walking in hope and healing.

Ian has also developed this bible study series for Woodies which you may want to work through in small groups or individually: <http://bit.ly/woodieswisdom>

### Prayer by Francis Drake

*Disturb us, Lord, when  
We are too pleased with ourselves,  
When our dreams have come true  
Because we dreamed too little,  
When we arrived safely  
Because we sailed too close to the shore.  
Disturb us, Lord, when  
With the abundance of things we possess  
We have lost our thirst  
For the waters of life;  
Having fallen in love with life,  
We have ceased to dream of eternity  
And in our efforts to build a new earth,  
We have allowed our vision  
Of the new Heaven to dim.  
Disturb us, Lord, to dare more boldly,  
To venture on wilder seas  
Where storms will show Your mastery;  
Where losing sight of land,  
We shall find the stars.  
We ask you to push back  
The horizons of our hopes;  
And to push back the future  
In strength, courage, hope, and love.*

### Bible reading Ezekiel 37 v 1-14

#### The proximity problem!

1. What lines stand out from this prayer?
2. How willing are you to be disturbed, to walk 'among the bones' (scale of 1-10)?
3. To you think generally Christians have a 'proximity problem', if so why?
4. Did any of the statistics or stories from Sunday 'disturb' you?
5. Have you ever felt like the bones?

#### Prophecy to the bones

*Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!*

1. Ian talked about "when we see mess God sees more" and "see I am doing a new thing, can you not perceive it?" What can we do to help us be people that see what God sees in brokenness and mess?
2. When in your life have you seen restoration as "process" rather than a moment?

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION NOTES: EZEKIEL 37 THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

3. What are the practical steps can church take to prophesy or “write a better story” for those impacted by porn?
4. What are the practical steps an individual can take to "write a better story” for themselves?

### **No room for the great**

*"If you don't feel strong desires for the manifestation of the glory of God, it is not because you have drunk deeply and are satisfied. It is because you have nibbled so long at the table of the world. Your soul is stuffed with small things, and there is no room for the great."*

*John Piper*

Q. What things from the 'world's table' are spoiling your appetite for 'the great'.