

# Weekly Rhythm

Sunday 30 March 2014

[Rhythm of Worship](#)

Commentary and Questions on the Lectionary Readings.

## [Ezekiel 37:1-14](#)

The valley of the dry bones — and what God can do with even this!

This passage finds its context in the Exile of the Southern Kingdom of Israel in Babylonia. Can the fallen past be restored in some way? Can they “live” again in the death that they have died? These are questions you may have asked about your own life and world. What life-giving “connections” had the Israelites lost? What life-giving “connections” have you lost? What connections need to be restored and how will this bring you new life?

As you read this passage note that 37:11-14 offers an explanation of its meaning.

[Psalm 130](#) The psalmist waits (vs 5,6) : What does this waiting reflect about God’s nature and our attitude (see vs 7,8)?

## [Romans 8:6-11](#)

Paul contrasts the life of the flesh, which draws from sin and leads to death, with the life of the Spirit, which draws from the Spirit of Christ and leads to righteousness. This is not a dualist rejection of the body, but rather a refusal to be controlled by its impulses. "God who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to our mortal bodies through the Spirit."

## [John 11:1-45](#)

Lazarus is dead, long dead, stinking dead. Jesus is resurrection and life, and raises him from the dead.

Verses 1-3: How does the introduction to this story express friendship and intimacy?

Verse 4: Could this verse be applied to other situations of suffering and illness? Even to our world? Is the end glory?

Verse 6: How does this verse relate to Psalm 130 (above)? Waiting for God’s moment.

How does the story bring glory to God and the Son?

How does the story encourage you in your life?