

Return from Exile

Neighbors help the returning families



Neighbors give gifts and supplies to people returning to Jerusalem.

Ezra 1:5-6

THINK ABOUT THE STORY

What kinds of support did neighbors give to those preparing to return?

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Read & think

READ IN ORDER

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Ezra 1 | 2. Ezra 2-3 |
| 3. Ezra 4-5 | 4. Ezra 6 |
| 5. Ezra 7-8 | 6. Ezra 9-10 |

MAIN POINTS

- Cyrus told God's people they could return, and the temple vessels went back to Jerusalem (Ezra 1:1-11).
- The people built the altar and laid the foundation; after opposition stopped the work, the prophets helped the leaders start again (Ezra 3:1-5:2).
- Ezra learned God's law, did it, and taught it, and his group prayed and carefully guarded what they carried (Ezra 7:10; 8:21-34).
- When Ezra heard about the community's trespass, he mourned and prayed, and the people took months to examine the cases (Ezra 9:1-10:17).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Who received the returned temple vessels after Mithredath numbered them?

Ezra 1:1-4

2. Which pair built the altar after the returned people gathered at Jerusalem?

Ezra 3:2-6

3. Ezra learned God's law, did it, and taught it (Ezra 7:10). Which one can you practice this week?

Ezra 7:10

MEMORY VERSE / Ezra 3:11

When the foundation was laid, the priests and Levites praised the LORD and the people gave a great shout (Ezra 3:10-11). This verse connects their praise to that first visible stage of rebuilding.

WEB

They sang to one another in praising and giving thanks to Yahweh, "For he is good, for his loving kindness endures forever toward Israel." All the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised Yahweh, because the foundation of Yahweh's house had been laid.

KJV

And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Notes

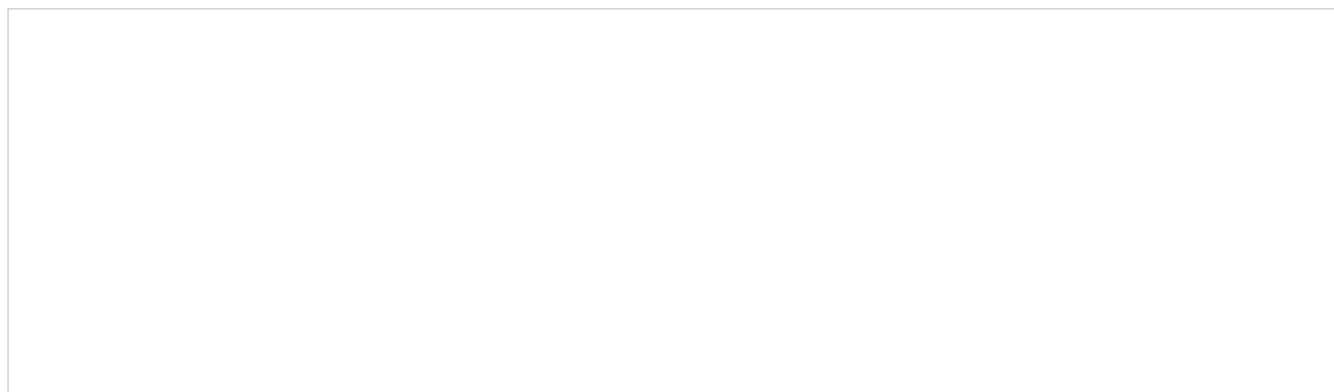
Waymark 40 / Younger children

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

WHAT I NOTICED

DRAW SOMETHING YOU WANT TO REMEMBER



ONE THING I WANT TO TRY

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Read & think

READ IN ORDER

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Ezra 1 | 2. Ezra 2-3 |
| 3. Ezra 4-5 | 4. Ezra 6 |
| 5. Ezra 7-8 | 6. Ezra 9-10 |

MAIN POINTS

- Cyrus's proclamation authorized return and rebuilding, while the restored vessels and detailed register connected people and service to Jerusalem (Ezra 1:1-2:70).
- The altar and offerings preceded the foundation; opposition halted the work, prophetic words accompanied its restart, and Darius ordered support (Ezra 3:1-6:16).
- Ezra's commitment to seek, do, and teach the law was joined to fasting, recruitment, entrusted treasure, and written accountability (Ezra 7:10; 8:15-34).
- The final crisis unfolds through a report, mourning, corporate confession, a proposal, public agreement, and a months-long inquiry (Ezra 9:1-10:17).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Whom did Ezra find missing when he reviewed the travelers at Ahava?

Ezra 1:1-4

2. Why did Ezra proclaim a fast at the river of Ahava?

Ezra 3:2-6

3. Ezra prepared his heart to seek the law, do it, and teach it (Ezra 7:10). Which part is clearest in your life, and which needs a concrete next step?

Ezra 7:10

MEMORY VERSE / Ezra 3:12-13

Many older priests, Levites, and family leaders who had seen the first house wept, while many others shouted for joy. Ezra says the two sounds could not be distinguished (Ezra 3:12-13).

WEB

But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' households, the old men who had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice. Many also shouted aloud for joy, so that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people; for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard far away.

KJV

But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy: So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Notes

Waymark 40 / Preteen

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

NOTES

ONE THING TO PUT INTO PRACTICE

PRAYER

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Read & think

READ IN ORDER

- | | |
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| 1. Ezra 1 | 2. Ezra 2-3 |
| 3. Ezra 4-5 | 4. Ezra 6 |
| 5. Ezra 7-8 | 6. Ezra 9-10 |

MAIN POINTS

- Cyrus's written proclamation authorized return and reconstruction, and Ezra records restored vessels, family registers, service roles, and genealogy questions (Ezra 1:1-2:70).
- Restored worship preceded the foundation; opposition interrupted construction, prophetic ministry accompanied its resumption, and Darius's decree supported completion (Ezra 3:1-6:16).
- Ezra prepared his heart to seek, do, and teach the law, then joined fasting and dependence with recruitment, delegated custody, and audited treasure (Ezra 7:10; 8:15-34).
- Ezra 9-10 moves from a leaders' report and corporate confession to a public proposal and a structured examination that lasted several months.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. What does Ezra 1 emphasize about the return from Babylon?

Ezra 1:1-11

2. Why are both shouting and weeping important in the foundation scene?

Ezra 3:10-13

3. Ezra prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, to do it, and to teach it (Ezra 7:10). How could one current choice connect all three?

Ezra 7:10

MEMORY VERSE / Ezra 7:10

Ezra 7:10 gives three linked actions: he prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, to do it, and to teach statutes and judgments in Israel.

WEB

For Ezra had set his heart to seek Yahweh's law, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel.

KJV

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Notes

Waymark 40 / Teen

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

NOTES

ONE THING TO PUT INTO PRACTICE

PRAYER

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

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MAIN POINTS

- Cyrus's proclamation authorizes return and reconstruction, while the restored vessels and detailed register reestablish people, service roles, and settlement (Ezra 1:1-2:70).
- Altar and offerings precede the foundation; opposition halts construction, prophetic words accompany its resumption, and archival verification produces royal support for completion (Ezra 3:1-6:16).
- Ezra's preparation to seek, do, and teach the law appears alongside fasting, recruitment, delegated custody, and written accounting (Ezra 7:10; 8:15-34).
- The closing crisis is narrated through a report, mourning, corporate confession, a proposal from Shechaniah, public assent, and a months-long case review (Ezra 9:1-10:17).

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. What does Ezra 1 emphasize about the return from Babylon?

Ezra 1:1-11

2. Why are both shouting and weeping important in the foundation scene?

Ezra 3:10-13

3. Ezra prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, to do it, and to teach it (Ezra 7:10). What evidence of each movement is present in your practice, and where is deliberate change needed?

Ezra 7:10

MEMORY VERSE / Ezra 1:1

Ezra connects Cyrus's proclamation with the word of the LORD by Jeremiah and says the LORD stirred up Cyrus's spirit (Ezra 1:1). The following verses record the written decree.

WEB

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that Yahweh's word by Jeremiah's mouth might be accomplished, Yahweh stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

KJV

Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

Return from Exile

Ezra 1-10

Name _____ Date _____

Notes

Waymark 40 / Adult

Main verse _____ Bonus verse(s) _____

Passage or verse _____

NOTES

ONE THING TO PUT INTO PRACTICE

PRAYER
