



GROUP DISCUSSION | October 9 | Week 2 | Ezra 2:68-3:11

SERIES OVERVIEW

This 6-week series addresses what God did for the Jewish people throughout the events recorded in the book of Ezra and parts of Haggai. Through failure, forgetting what is important, and sin, we may become exiles attempting to return to God. However, just as in the book of Ezra, God reclaimed His people according to His promises, He also reclaims and redeems our lives for His purpose in this world.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

Think of this discussion guide as a springboard. It's intent and purpose is to offer suggested direction for conversation. Use what's helpful to your group and lean into discussion that's sparked from the insight and input of your group.

CONNECTION

Monte opened this week's message talking about Mission Impossible. What's one of your favorite action movies of all time?

TRUTH

Here's a brief recap from last week: *God had warned the people of Judah by His prophets to repent or face judgement. They refused, so God raised up the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar to discipline His people. Nebuchadnezzar conquered the nation of Judah, deported the people to Babylon, and then looted and destroyed Jerusalem and the temple of God. The people were in exile for 70 years when God sent Cyrus, King of Persia, to defeat the Babylonians. God used Cyrus, a pagan king, to send the Jews back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple of God and restore the worship of God. The start of chapter 2 is long and tedious as Ezra records lists, names, and other information regarding all those returning families. These details are to prepare for the major event - the reclaiming of the Worship of God and His Temple.*

Someone read Ezra 2:68-3:11

What sticks out from that passage?

What does this passage tell us about God?

What does this passage tell us about people?

APPLICATION

We shared 2 lessons we learned from the Jews reclaiming what was lost:

1. Reclaiming requires investing in the mission.
2. Reclaiming requires sweat equity.

What would it look like for you to take steps toward investing in the mission and pouring out sweat equity to "reclaim what has been lost?"

How can you take the first step this week?

PRAY