

Quarter #: 4	Class Age: 1 st -3 rd	Lesson Title: Ezra
Lesson #: 6	Prepared By: Christy Gregory	Lesson Scripture: Ezra 7-10

Visuals / Resources: Free Bible Illustrations (www.freebibleimages.org)

Welcome Activity: Color Sheet of Ezra

Prayer: Acts of Prayer Board and print out to help them focus while praying

Review: Ask what do we remember from the previous week.

Lesson Facts:

- Ezra was a scribe and priest living in Babylon.
- King Artaxerxes gave him permission to return to Jerusalem and teach God's law to the people.
- Ezra needed Levites to help him
- 38 Levites and 220 Temple servants responded to Ezra's plea.
- Ezra had everyone fast and pray for a safe trip to Jerusalem. He did not ask the King for guards because he told the King that God protects those who turn to Him. So the Jews trusted that God would keep them safe.
- The trip took 4 months and God kept them safe the entire time.
- Soon after arriving leaders came to Ezra to report that many of the Jews were not living as they should be. They had gone against God's law and married neighboring countries who were idol worshipers.
- Ezra tore his clothes and mourned.
- Ezra pleaded with God not to destroy them all.
- Ezra had men who married foreign women appear before the elders and judges where they lived and had their cases heard.
- The men with idol worshipping wives made agreement to separate from them and gave sin offerings to God.

Principle:

- Do we know what God wants us to do? Are we doing what God asks of us? Do we let others lead us away from God?

Application: Do our friends lead us to God or away from God? We need to know God's word so we can do what is right and not let others lead us astray.

Activities: Memory Vs: Colossians 3:23

Songs: See Song List.

Quarter #: 4	Class Age: 1 st -3 rd	Lesson Title: Ezra
Lesson #: 5	Prepared By: Christy Gregory	Lesson Scripture: Ezra 1-6

Visuals / Resources: Free Bible Illustrations (www.freebibleimages.org). Use Part 1 and Part 2

Welcome Activity: Color Sheet of Rebuilding the Temple, Color the Puzzle of rebuilding the Temple

Prayer: Acts of Prayer Board and print out to help them focus while praying

Review: Ask what do we remember from the previous week.

Lesson Facts:

- Jews repeatedly disobeyed God and God allowed the Babylonians to invade Jerusalem and destroy the city and take the Jews into Captivity.
- The prophet Jeremiah prophesied that it would be 70 years before the Jews could return to Jerusalem.
- King Cyrus said he wanted the Jews to return to their land.
- God had told Cyrus He wanted the Temple rebuilt in Jerusalem.
- Many Jews in captivity prepared to return to Jerusalem.
- The people gave generously to fund the rebuilding work
- They rebuilt the alter of the Temple
- Then they prepared and laid the foundation of the Temple
- While the rebuilding was happening; the people of the surrounding area wanted to help.
- They were idol worshipers and Zerubbabel told them no. So the enemies of the Jews tried to stop the building.
- The work stopped for 16 years.
- King Darius is now King and he had a search of the royal records and found that King Cyrus had decreed that the Jews could rebuild.
- King Darius gave orders that the work could continue.
- In the 6th year of King Darius the Temple was finished.
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Principle: If God is for us who can be against us. (Rom 8:31).

Practical Application: Are we on the side of God? If people try to discourage us or frighten us to stop working for God will we stop or will we continue to do God's will.

Activities: Memory Vs: Colossians 3:23 (use sheet with building blocks to BUILD memory verse).

Rebuild the Temple Puzzle, Review by asking questions then children add block to build the Temple with correct answers. Use the Object Lesson and have children rebuild the Temple with blocks.

Songs: See Song List