

Day 4: READ ➔ Ezra 3:7-13

READ & DRAW ➔ King Cyrus told the people of Israel to rebuild the Temple because the Babylonian army had destroyed it. The people began to build the temple all over again. First, they laid a very strong foundation. The young people cheered when they finished the foundation because it was an exciting day. But the old people did not cheer. They remembered what the old temple looked like, all of the gold, silver, and expensive ornaments. They knew that the new temple would never be the same.

Draw the two different people below...

Draw a happy
young person

Draw a sad
older person

PRAY ➔ *God, sometimes I feel happy and sometimes I feel sad. Help me to be happy about Your love, but also sad when I do something wrong. Amen.*

I completed this weekly devotion with my adopted pet. (You will receive an additional \$2 Kids' Kash this week.) Way to go!

Child's Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

January 3/4, 2026

GOD BROUGHT HIS PEOPLE HOME

Ezra 1-3

Big Picture Question: How did God plan to fix what sin broke? *Before He created the world, God planned to send the Messiah.*

Main Point: The exile was over, and God brought His people back to Jerusalem.

Day 1: READ ➔ Ezra 1:1-4

READ & DISCUSS ➔ For 70 years, the Jews had been away from home. They had to live in a country that was not their own. First, the country was called Babylon. Now, the country was called Persia. It had a new king—King Cyrus. The old kings had made the Jews stay away from home. But now God worked in the heart of the new king and he let the Jews return to Jerusalem. After 70 years, the Jews were going home!

Why do you think God had the Jews wait 70 years until they could return to the land of Israel?

Do you think some Jews stopped believing they would go back to Israel after waiting so long for it to happen?

If you were a Jewish person living in captivity, and the king said you could return to Israel, would you stay in the foreign land or go to Israel?

PRAY ➔ *God, You are big and strong. Thank You for keeping Your promises. Amen.*

GOD BROUGHT HIS PEOPLE HOME



Day 2: READ → Ezra 1:5-11

READ & ANSWER → King Cyrus sent money and supplies to help the Jews rebuild the temple.

Which king allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem?

King _____

King Cyrus brought out items belonging to what?

How many items of gold and silver were counted?

PRAY → Help me trust You and Your promises for my life, just like You helped Cyrus do what You wanted. Help me be brave and know You are in charge. Amen.

Day 3: READ → Ezra 3:1-6

READ & DO → When the Jews returned to Jerusalem, they found the Temple had been ruined. Their job was to restore the worship of God. They started by rebuilding the altar and gave a sacrifice to the Lord to thank Him for keeping His promises to them. They built the altar in the place where the temple used to be.

Use rocks, blocks or LEGOs to build a simple altar somewhere in your home. An altar is a place to honor God, remember His help, give thanks, and worship Him. Put a basket or bowl on your altar. Then, write or draw things you're thankful for (e.g., "my dog," "Mom's cookies," "God helped me today") and put them in the basket. Say today's prayer below holding the basket of blessings at your altar for God.

PRAY → *God, help me to build my life on You, like the Israelites built the altar. Thank you for your many blessings. Help me to remember you every day. Amen.*



In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

Isaiah 25:9