

Questions for Homegroups

Ezra 1-2

What are the historical circumstances in which the story of Ezra is set? (Perhaps someone can research this.) How might these circumstances serve as a useful analogy for the church today? In what important ways is their situation different?

Identify the range of ways in which God is presented as being in control in Ezra 1:1. How does this affect our view of history, nations and the people who seem to control our lives? How might that affect your attitude as you go to work?

What is God's purpose in returning the exiles to Jerusalem? How does the text indicate his priorities? Are these God's fundamental priorities today?

Abraham had been promised descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore (Gen 22:17). What do you think an Israelite reader of Ezra 2 would have concluded? How does this point us forward to God's ultimate purpose? What difference do the lessons of Ezra 1-2 make to your life?

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