



A New Beginning | The Book of Ezra
01.21.24

START TALKING | (Find a conversation starter for your group)

Are you more of an idea person, or a doer?

START EXPLORING | (Read the Bible)

Read Ezra 1:1-11 and Jeremiah 25:11-12 and 29:10

- How did the decree of Cyrus demonstrate God's sovereignty and providence?
- What significance do you think the return of the Temple vessels held for the Israelites?
- Why do you think God chose Cyrus, a pagan king, to issue the decree for the Israelites' return?
- How does the account of Ezra 1 emphasize the importance of unity and cooperation among God's people?

START SHARING | (Choose a question to create openness)

- God moves the hearts of kings and families alike to do his will. When was a time when God "moved your heart" to do his will? (vv, 1,5)?
- If you must wait, as Israel did, for God to restore your place in his service, are you content to do so?
 - Or are you pushing for change? How so?

Start Praying. (Be bold and pray with power)

How can this group be praying for you this week?

Start Doing. (Commit to a step, and live it out this week)

Memorize 1 Peter 5:10 "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast."