



Ezra 9:1-15

- Questions
  - What does Ezra find out that the people of God were doing?
    - What was Ezra's response to sin?
    - What is your response to sin?
  - Why is Ezra so heartbroken?
    - How extensive is this problem of intermarriage?
    - What warning is given to God's people in Deut. 7:3-4?
      - What are the outcomes of the people of God who marry non-believers according to this text?
    - What does this tell you about how the leaders and priests believed about the Word of God?
  - What outcomes have you seen when Christians date or marry Non-believers?
    - What steps can Christian parents take to encourage their believing children to marry believers?
    - If you are a Christian parent, what restrictions did you put on your children dating?
      - What advice would you give a younger couple, who has children, and how they should parent their children through dating?
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- Ezra 9:6-15- What 5 themes do you see in this classic prayer?
  - What does this prayer tell you about which is greater, guilt or grace?

- What effect do you suppose this public and published prayer had on the first audience?
  - Do you pray more personal "I" prayers or more priestly "we" prayers? Why?
- 25 years later Nehemiah dealt with the same problem (see Neh. 13:23-29) Compare his approach with Ezra.
  - Would your response be more like Ezra or Nehemiah?