



EZRA // NEHEMIAH

GOSPEL COMMUNITY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

For the Week of October 25, 2026

REVIEW

1. Read back through the sermon text (Ezra 5–6) and look over your sermon notes.
 - a. What was something that caught your attention, challenged, encouraged, or confused you?
 - b. What point or idea have you remembered most since hearing Sunday's message?
 - c. What's a word, phrase, or episode in this passage that stands out to you? Why?

GOD'S STORY

2. Can you think of a time when something initially seemed like a setback or disappointment, but looking back, you can see how God was working it for your good?
3. In Ezra 5:1–5, what prompted the people to resume rebuilding the temple after years of opposition? What does this reveal about the role of God's Word in accomplishing his purposes?
4. How would you characterize your own response to Scripture lately? Are there areas where you know what God commands but have been slow or reluctant to obey?
5. What truths about God tend to be a ballast for your soul when you face the storm of anxiety, uncertainty, or discouragement? How can we become better at storing up those truths before difficulties come?
6. The discovery of Cyrus's decree demonstrates that God was working long before his people could see the outcome. How does remembering God's sovereignty over the details of our lives help us remain faithful when we cannot see what he's doing?
7. Ezra 6 concludes with God's people rejoicing in his goodness showing God works for the joy of his people and receives glory through their joy in him. What circumstances tend to rob you of joy in God? How does the gospel give us us lasting joy?

DIGGING DEEPER

8. Read Haggai 1:1–15. What do we learn from Haggai about why the work had been neglected? How does God's Word confront the misplaced priorities of his people, and where might we need that same correction today?
9. Read Proverbs 21:1. How does this passages help us understand God's providential work through the Persian kings in Ezra 5–6? How should God's sovereignty over rulers shape the way Christians respond to political uncertainty or opposition?



GUIDE FOR DISCIPLESHIP HUDDLES

1. REPENT & BELIEVE

Ask:

- What desires and/or lies do you need to turn away from in repentance?
- What truth and/or promises from Scripture do you need to turn to in faith?

Use the following attitudes of unbelief as a starting point. (See also Appendixes 8 and 12 in the *Discipleship Huddle Guide* for more Repent & Believe tools.)

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| • FALSE GUILT OR MISPLACED SHAME | • JEALOUSY OR ENVY |
| • ANXIETY | • BITTERNESS |
| • DESPAIR OR DESPONDENCY | • LUST OR INDULGENT DESIRES |
| • PRIDE | • LAZINESS |
| • COVETOUSNESS | • IMPATIENCE |

2. PLAN & PRAY

- Who do you know who is far from God? What steps could you take this week to connect with that person?
- Pray together by name for specific people you know who are far from God.

