

## Big Question

**Question** - Can God be trusted?

**Answer** - Yes, God cannot lie or ever be wrong, so we can trust whatever He has said.

## Bible Time

God's people had been living in Babylon for decades. King Nebuchadnezzar had completely destroyed Jerusalem. Many of God's people had died. Others lived in Babylon. Some of their children and grandchildren were born in Babylon and grew up there. But Babylon was not their home.

Before God's people were taken away from Judah, God promised through the prophet Jeremiah that the exile would last 70 years; then God would bring His people back to the land. At last, the time had come for God's people to go home.

Cyrus, king of Persia, had taken over Babylon. God gave Cyrus an idea. Cyrus made an announcement: "God wants me to build Him a temple in Jerusalem, so let all of God's people go back to Jerusalem so they can rebuild the Lord's temple. Anyone who stays behind should give the travelers anything they need—gold and silver, animals, and gifts for God's temple."

The exile was over! God's people were free to go back to their homes. God's promise was coming true. So the people got ready to go to Judah. All their neighbors helped them by giving them gifts: gold and silver, animals, and other expensive things.

Read Ezra 1:1-11

## Talk It Out

How do you think you would feel if you were not allowed to be home for 70 years?

How would you feel once you were allowed to go back?

Why can we always trust God to do what He has said?

Do you think it's important for you to follow through with the things you tell people? Why?

How can knowing that God is always faithful, help us in our day to day life?

## Pray About It

Thank God that He is always faithful in every way!

Ask God to help us to be faithful to Him and to others in our lives!