

Rebuild, Worship, Persevere, Dedicate: Restored Lives

Week Three

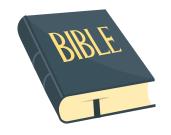
Completing the Work





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## **Key Scripture: Ezra 6:13-22**

#### **Sermon Notes**

Last week, we discussed the obstacles and oppositions that kept us from building the altar and temple of God in our lives. These obstacles were placed at the altar as a symbol of surrender.

This week, we celebrate the culmination of years of perseverance: the completion of the temple. This event not only marks a physical accomplishment but also a significant spiritual victory. Through this passage, we learn about dedication, consecration, and the importance of finishing the work God has called us to.

### **Discussion Questions**

### 1) Celebration of Completion

READ: Ezra 6:15-16 & Philippians 1:6

- What area of your life do you feel God is still working on?
- Have you experienced opposition while doing God's work? How did you overcome it?
- In what ways do you celebrate the small victories in your spiritual journey, acknowledging God's hand in them?

#### 2) Dedication to God's Service

READ Ezra 6:17-18 & Romans 12:1

- What areas of your life (e.g., time, talents, resources) need to be more fully dedicated to God's service?
- How can you cultivate a lifestyle of continual dedication and not just one-time acts of commitment?
- What practical steps can you take this week to serve God with your gifts and abilities?

## 3) Living as a Holy Temple

READ Ezra 6:19-22 & 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

- How does understanding that you are God's temple impact the way you live your daily life?
- In what ways can you consecrate yourself to God—setting apart your life for His purposes?
- Are there areas of your life where you feel you are not living as a holy temple? How can you address these areas this week?

# **Living It Out**

As we reflect on the completion of the temple in Ezra, consider how God is calling you to finish the work He has started in your life. Dedication and consecration are not just one-time acts but ongoing commitments to living a life that reflects God's presence.

Here are some steps to help you live out this message:

- 1. **Examine Your Dedication** Spend time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of your life that need further dedication to God.
- 2. <u>Celebrate the Small Completions</u> As you progress in your spiritual journey, celebrate the small victories. Take time to reflect on where God has brought you, and thank Him for completing small tasks in your life.
- 3. <u>Consecrate Your Daily Routine</u> Set aside a specific time each day for personal consecration. Whether through worship, prayer, or Bible reading, make it a sacred time of rededicating your life to God's purposes.