



## Ezra

These resources are designed to help you explore the Bible as a family together at home while we can't go to church. Be as creative as you want to be and enjoy spending time with each other and with God.

### Prepare yourself...

Loving God,  
Thank you for being with us throughout  
the last week.  
We come here today to worship you,  
To learn from your word,  
To discover more of who you are,  
And who you want us to be.  
Give us understanding and draw us  
close to you.  
**Amen.**



### Question...



What would you like to be when you grow up?  
Adults – Is the job you do now what you wanted to  
do when you were younger?

### Read the Bible...



Today's verses are found in **Ezra 7:1-10**. You can read them in a Bible or find them [here](#).

Ezra's story begins a long time before the part of the story we read today. God's people, the Israelites, had not always been good at obeying God and living in a way that pleased him. They didn't keep their side of a promise made between them and God. They had been warned that if they didn't change, the city of Jerusalem would be attacked by a foreign country. The city would be destroyed and the people taken away into exile, that means they wouldn't be allowed in their own country.

Unfortunately, the people didn't listen to the warnings and so they were taken over by the King of Babylon and were in exile for 70 years. After that they were allowed to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the city, its walls and the Temple where they worshipped God. Ezra's job was to teach the people and remind them of how God wanted them to live as His people.

## Talk together...



- What was Ezra's job?
- Verse 10 names three things Ezra does, what are they?
- What jobs need training and practise to do well?
- Just as those jobs need training and practise, Ezra has to STUDY God's word, DO what it says, and TEACH it to others.
- Who or what helps you to learn about God?
- How do you think God wants us to live?
- Who or what do you think God might want you to tell about Him? How could you do that?
- Ezra also knew that it was God who helped Him in everything. Gave him wisdom to understand His word, protected him, and gave him courage to follow God's ways and teach it to others.
- When have you known God helping you?

## Play together...

### Kim's game

This is a memory game. Lay out 20 random items on a tray. Have everyone look at them for a short time then cover the tray. Then you have a minute to try and write down or say everything that was on the tray.

A variation of this game would be to have all except one person close their eyes. The other person takes away one object and the others have to open their eyes and work out what's missing.

## Pray together...

God wants us to know him and make him known to others. Write down names of people who you want to talk to God about, or things you could do that show God's love to others. Then pray about those things, asking God to help you, be with you and remember he is the more important thing.

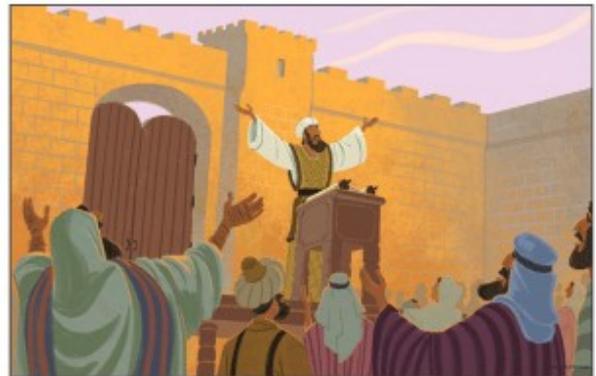
## Make something...

### Build a city or temple

Using Lego, cardboard boxes, Jenga bricks, or whatever else you might have, try to build a city or a temple. What do you think it was like for the people of Israel who had to rebuild everything in Jerusalem?

### Shakers

Use a cardboard tube or empty bottle and decorate it with any craft materials you have at home. Fill it partway with rice, dried beans, pasta, cereal etc and secure the top either with a lid or tape and paper. Use the instruments to celebrate God, perhaps singing or shaking along to some music.



## Praise together...



[Chasing me](#) – Gateway kids worship

[Sing for joy](#) – Seed family worship

[Speak O Lord](#) – Keith and Kristyn Getty