

Homecoming: Ezra & Nehemiah – Rediscovering Our Story

May 2, 2021

Reflect + Discuss

- Growing up, did you hear stories about your family and your history? What effect, if any, did these stories have on you?
- Read Ezra 1:1-11 and Jeremiah 29:4-14. What stands out to you from the text? What questions do you have?
- Where do the ancient Israelites fit into God's story for humanity? How do you think Jeremiah's message affected how the Israelites settled into Babylon and told this story to their children?
- What types of challenges did those who chose to return to Jerusalem face? Why would they decide to return despite these challenges?
- What are some of the biggest ways your life has changed during the pandemic? What are some habits you want to include in your life moving forward, and what are some habits you want to drop?
- How does being part of the story of God's people affect how you approach life? In other words, how does knowing what came before us and where we are headed in the story shape your priorities today? How can we "relaunch" our lives together in intentional community?

Dig Deeper

- For an overview of Ezra & Nehemiah, check out [this video](#) from the Bible Project.

Pray

- Thank God for the privilege of being part of His story. Ask for discernment and wisdom as you move towards re-launching your life and setting new priorities.

Next Steps

- Go to our [Resources & Tools](#) page to download the 3 question diagnostic tool that Pastor Charles mentioned – read through the questions and consider your responses. Then, meet with another Christ-follower (virtually or in person) to talk through the 3 questions. Pick someone who knows you well, and whom you trust.