

A Heart Fixed on God's Word Ezra 7:1-10

SERMON OUTLINE

The first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day is to have my soul happy in the Lord. (George Mueller)

I. Ezra's Project (vv. 1-6)

- A. Ezra was a scribe and a member of the priestly class
- B. During reign of Artaxerxes I in the 5th century BC
- C. Work in Jerusalem had stalled for decades
- D. Appointed by the king to rebuild Jerusalem
- E. What would qualify someone to lead this assignment?

II. Ezra's Patron (v. 6)

- A. "The hand of the Lord his God was on him."
- B. His calling AND his equipping came from the Lord
- C. His success depended on his submission to God's Word

III. Ezra's Power (v. 10)

- A. Ezra's dedication to the Word of God
- B. Ezra's attention to the Word of God
- C. Ezra's submission to the Word
- D. Ezra's instruction from the Word

APPLICATIONS

- Set your mind, heart, will to study God's Word
- Make study of God's Word your daily priority
- Commit to radical, unquestioned obedience to God's Word
- Be ready and willing to teach the Word
- Treasure those who commit to teach God's Word

PARALLEL TEXTS TO CONSIDER

- 2 Timothy 3:16-4:5
- 2 Timothy 4:13
- James 1:22-27

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Jake referenced George Mueller in his introduction. What is a biography that you've benefitted from reading?
2. What is your process for reading & studying God's Word?
3. Does your calendar or your daily practice reflect a commitment to studying God's Word?
4. How can we as a Community Group help each other commit to regular Bible study and obedience?
5. What are some ways your obedience to God's Word needs to improve? How can we get there?
6. To whom are you teaching God's Word?

OTHER QUESTIONS THAT MAY HELP

1. What does this text tell us about God?
2. What does this text tell us about man?
3. What should I put on or put off in my thinking?
4. What should I put on or put off in my doing?

HOMEWORK

1. Make a practical commitment (ex. put it in your calendar) to study God's Word.
2. Make a practical plan to study God's Word.
3. Ask someone in your group to hold either read with you or to you accountable to your commitment to study the Word.

2 Timothy 3:16	THINKING	DOING					
<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“PUT ON”</p>							
<p style="text-align: center;">—</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“PUT OFF”</p>		<table border="1"><tr><td data-bbox="1014 800 1188 878">Teaching</td><td data-bbox="1369 800 1892 878">Training</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="1014 883 1188 967">Correcting</td><td data-bbox="1369 883 1892 967">Rebuking</td></tr></table>	Teaching	Training	Correcting	Rebuking	
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