

Sunday, August 22, 2021

NEW SERIES- "LEANING FORWARD"- Avoiding the pitfalls of starting over. This short series will look at the ministries of Ezra and Nehemiah and how they and others tried to rebuild Jerusalem after being in exile for 70 years. The successes, and failures they encountered, and what we can learn.



"Rebuilding My Starting Point"
Ezra 6:13-22

Are you a project starter, or finisher? What keeps you motivated to finish once you have started?

Ezra/Nehemiah are history books documenting Israel's return to their homes after being sent to exile for 70 years by God for their persistent disobedience. Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther all intersect with each other to show God's faithfulness, even in the face of our faithfulness. Skim through these books and highlight where God was faithful.

Ezra highlights three obstacles to rebuilding. Read Ezra 3:1 again. Where have you looked more on God's past events and missed what He is currently doing?

Obstacle #2 is in Ezra 4:1-3. How have I limited the methods and people God may be using to accomplish His purposes?

Obstacle #3 is in Ezra 4:4,5. How may I have been discouraging to God's purpose, and even an obstacle to what He wants to accomplish?

Read Ezra 6:16, after a 16-year delay, worship of God starts again. What will it take for to re-engage with God's people in worship and in service?
