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Discussion Questions

INTRODUCTION

After being miraculously delivered from captivity and placed back in the Promise Land the Israelites found themselves in a wasteland. This wasteland was not primarily physical but was dominated by their idolatry and idleness. When examining our lives we can see that we are like the Israelites, even after being miraculously delivered and given a mission, we can become lazy and turn our eyes to evil things. May God give us a clean and pure heart that is ready to step forward in mission as we gaze upon His great work and worth.

DISCUSSION & APPLICATION

Love God's Word (Ezra 7:1-10)

1. What do you need to confess to God concerning your love for His Word? What would your life be like if the love for God's Word was explosive? Ask God to do this in your heart and life.
2. What wrong behavior, harmful emotions, false attitudes result in me when I forget my need for his Word?
3. What has God been prompting or convicting you to obey him or do? How can you submit to Jesus concerning what God is showing you? How has God given you clear direction through His Word? Is the Spirit directing you in a specific way?

Redeem God's World (Ezra 7:11-26)

1. Everyone is a teacher either formally or informally. Who are you teaching? What are you trying to teach and communicate? If you asked them what they have learned from you what would they say? Do you need to repent or maybe just have more intentionality? What is one way you can take a step of obedience in this area?
2. What can you ask God to do through you? How can you be an agent of change?

Trust in God's Nature (Ezra 7:6,9,27-28)

1. What is God like? What is his nature? How do you know what God is like? Why is God deserving of trust?
2. How can you love and adore God on the basis of His power and love?
3. Because Christ is the true and better Ezra describe what He is like. How is Christ the ultimate answer to your sins or needs? Spend some time in prayer thanking Christ for how He is the ultimate revelation of God and how much we need Him!