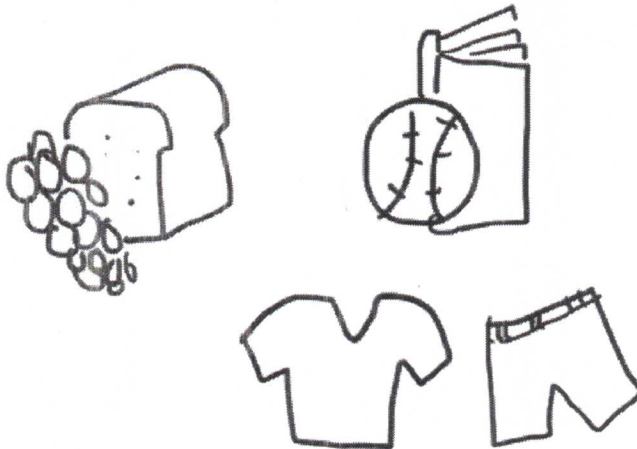


Ezra Homecoming. Ezra 1-4 [www.berkeycob.org](http://www.berkeycob.org) 11/28/2021 Sunday John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am going.

Story notes: Review: the kings of Babylon were Nebuchadnezzar... who took God's people captive and destroyed the temple... who had the 2 dreams... who made the 3 get into the fiery furnace... then Belshazzar... who saw the handwriting on the wall... then Darius who threw Daniel in the lion's den. Now Cyrus... It is 70 years since God's people have been living in Babylon and Cyrus says, "You can go home." God says "Build me a temple in Jerusalem." Many people decided to leave Babylon and go back home. The ones who stayed sent gold and silver and animals to help when the people got there to rebuild the temple. King Cyrus got out all the things that belonged to God's temple to send with them. They counted out all of God's things and made a list of them so that when they got there they could count them and make sure nothing got lost. It was 5,400 things they sent. Then they made a list of all the people who chose to come back home to Jerusalem. About 50,000 people. When they arrived in Jerusalem, everyone found a place to live. Then they all came to Jerusalem and built the altar to the Lord. They started worshiping again. Every morning and every night. Then they gave money to stone masons and carpenters and food and drink to helpers from other places to start cutting logs and floating them down to be used rebuilding. Zerubbabel began the work. Everyone helped. Laid the foundation and the priests put on special clothes and got their trumpets and cymbals and started praising God. Singing.. Giving thanks to God... God is good. His love lasts forever. People gave a big shout because the foundation of the temple was laid! Older people who had seen the first temple... wept and no one could tell if there was more crying or singing. So loud that the enemies came to see what was happening. They asked Zerubbabel to let them help build. The answer was NO, we are doing this for our God... go away. Enemies tried to discourage them from building...Tried to make them afraid... hired people to make the work harder...Enemies wrote a letter to Artaxerxes the new king and said the Jews were repairing the walls... a lie.... And that Jerusalem was a rebellious city in the past and should not be allowed to rebuild the temple. The king wrote back and said, Yes the Jews were rebels in the past....so stop their work! And the work stopped.

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Preschool: The people returning to Jerusalem had a lot of things to pack to take with them! Color the items and the suitcase. Draw pictures of the other things you would take with you! Then cut out the drawings and glue the items you would take with you!



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Kindergarteners: Find the word that matches the same word.



Ezra . . . . .		Zerubbabel
Zerubbabel		Jerusalem
Jerusalem		Ezra
Cyrus		King
king		Cyrus
trumpet		Cymbals
cymbals		Trumpet
sang		Jesus
Go		Go
home		Sang
cried		Home
Jesus		Heaven
Heaven		cried





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Kindergarteners and 1<sup>st</sup> Graders: Use the code box to figure out which letters go in each spot.




A 	E 	I 	O 	U 
--	--	--	---	--

J            s            s  
 

is m            k            ng  
 

           s             
 

h            m            n  
  

H                       v            n.  
  

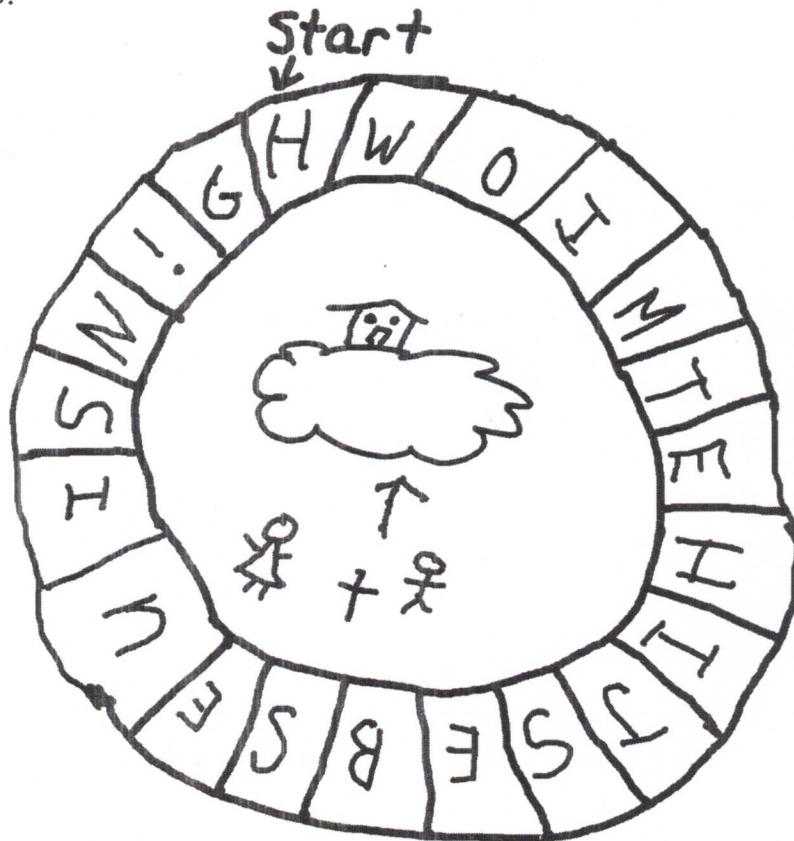
Ezra Homecoming. Ezra 1-4 [www.berkeycob.org](http://www.berkeycob.org) 11/28/2021 Sunday John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am going.

1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> Graders: Cut out the cards and play a match game with a friend.

Jesus is in Heaven now...	....making a home for us.	Ezra tells about the Jews coming...
..home to Jerusalem.	Only the foundation of the...	....temple was laid.
The people sang...	....and cried both.	King Cyrus said,
..."Go home."	Zerubbabel led the...	...people.

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2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders: Go around the circle twice. Start by writing down the H and then every other letter on the lines at the bottom of the page.



\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_!

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3rd-4th Graders: Find these story words in the puzzle below.

PERSIA	LORD	JEWS
HOME	REBUILD	TEMPLE
JERUSALEM	PRAISE	THANKS
ENEMIES	STOPPED	LIES
EZRA		

I	N	T	O	T	H	E	H	H	U	S	E	O	F	A
D	E	E	P	E	X	E	A	O	T	H	A	N	K	S
E	C	V	E	E	I	L	2	M	E	C	2	A	X	Y
P	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	O	T	C	C	R
P	E	I	S	E	I	L	V	E	P	P	X	D	A	U
O	W	M	I	I	T	C	B	P	L	M	I	F	R	T
T	S	A	A	M	R	A	E	M	E	S	I	A	R	P
S	D	L	I	U	B	E	R	N	A	E	Z	R	A	T
E	N	E	M	I	E	S	F	F	L	O	R	D	X	X

Just like the Jews were so excited to be going home to Jerusalem, someday we will go home too. Our real home is in Heaven. Jesus is there now making a place ready for us!



## 4<sup>th</sup> Graders: Could you be a mason?

& = a	@ = b	# = c	\$ = d	% = e
++ = f	!!! = i	Z =	?? = k	{: = l
[] = n	(;) = o	♦ = p	<: = r	<; = s
9 = t	N = u	"" = y		

A mason is also called a \_\_\_\_\_ layer. He works

@ <: !!! # ??

on a construction crew. He \_\_\_\_\_ down the

{: & "" <;

foundation of the building. It is always the first part

\_\_\_\_\_ on any building. It is the most important

\$ (;) [] %

\_\_\_\_\_ too. When the Jews laid down the

♦ & <: 9

foundation of the temple, they \_\_\_\_\_ and

<; & [] z

they \_\_\_\_\_ both. Make sure \_\_\_\_\_ build

# <: !!! % \$ "" (;) N

your \_\_\_\_\_ on the firm foundation of

{: !!! ++ %

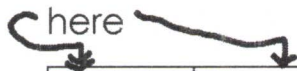
\_\_\_\_\_. That \_\_\_\_\_ is Jesus Christ.

<: (;) # ?? <: (;) # ??



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5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Graders: Follow the memory verse through the maze. Start

here 

DO	AND	JESUS	GOD	HOLY	SPIRIT	JESUS	GOD
NOT	IF	I	GO	AND	JESUS	SPIRIT	HOLY
LET	YOUR	HEARTS	BE	PREPARE	GOD	HOLY	SPIRIT
ALSO	YOU	THAT	TROUBLED	A	PLACE	FOR	YOU
MAY	JESUS	ME	WITH	TRUST	IN	GOD	I
BE	GOD	HOLY	BE	ALSO	TRUST	COME	WILL
WHERE	JESUS	SPIRIT	TO	YOU	IN	BACK	IN
I	AM	JESUS	GOD	TAKE	AND	ME.	MY
HOLY	GOING.	JOHN	14	:	3	HOUSE	FATHER'S
SPIRIT	I	YOU.	TOLD	HAVE	WOULD	ARE	GOD
JESUS	AM	GOD	YOU.	JOHN	I	MANY	GOD
JESUS	GOING	HOLY	FOR	14:	SO	ROOMS	IF
GOD	THERE	SPIRIT	PLACE	1-2	NOT	WERE	IT
JESUS	TO	PREPARE	A	JESUS	GOD	GOD	GOD

There are 2 parts of John 14 hidden in the puzzle. Can you find both?

JOHN 14:1-2 Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you.

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may be where I am.

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5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Graders: Unscramble the words as you read the story.

Cyrus, the king of Persia was \_\_\_\_\_ by the

r u s c y

d e s u

\_\_\_\_\_. Jeremiah the prophet had \_\_\_\_\_

d l o r

that after seventy \_\_\_\_\_, God's people would go back

a e y r s

\_\_\_\_\_ and rebuild the \_\_\_\_\_. King

e m o h

p l e t e m

Cyrus told the Jews, "\_\_\_\_\_ back \_\_\_\_\_ and

O g

e m o h

rebuild your temple then \_\_\_\_\_ to your \_\_\_\_\_

r a p y

d o G

for me! When they laid the foundation some \_\_\_\_\_ and

s a n g

some \_\_\_\_\_ because they remembered how

t p e w

beautiful the temple had been, but now it was only a foundation.