



Today's Topic:

Celebrating New Beginnings

Ezra 3:10-13

November 16, 2025

1. _____ Our Past

“When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments and with trumpets, and the Levites (the sons of Asaph) with cymbals, took their places to praise the LORD, as prescribed by David king of Israel.”

Ezra 3:10 (NIV, 2011); compare 1 Chronicles 6:31-32

2. _____ Our Present

“With praise and thanksgiving they sang to the LORD: ‘He is good; his love toward Israel endures forever.’ And all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.” Ezra 3:11 (NIV, 2011)

3. _____ Our Future

“But many of the older priests and Levites and family heads, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud when they saw the foundation of this temple being laid, while many others shouted for joy. No one could distinguish the sound of the shouts of joy from the sound of weeping, because the people made so much noise. And the sound was heard far away.” Ezra 3:12-13 (NIV, 2011)

The Point

Next Steps:

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you or someone you know been given a “second chance” at life? If so, share that experience with your group.
2. Read Ezra 3:10 and 1 Chronicles 6:31-32. Why was King David so committed to incorporating music into the people’s worship?
3. Read Ezra 3:11. Why would the people choose to celebrate when the foundation was built?
4. Read Ezra 3:12-23. Why were some people rejoicing while others were weeping?
5. How does this story inspire our continuing mission of Loving Christ, Sharing His Grace, and Serving All?