EZRA 3:1-6

SUNDAY 3rd MAY



BIBLE

EZRA 3:1-6

Ask God for help for yourself and the church as we read His word Read Fzra 3:1-6

LISTEN

SERMON BY SPENCER

Please click here to listen to the sermon

REFLECTION

QUESTIONS AND NOTES

- What wrong things can end up being foundational to churches?
- → United in wanting to know God
 - What is the ultimate goal for the people building the temple?
 - Where can you see the dangers of us being divided by having the wrong aims as people in the church?
 - How can we ensure that knowing God remains central to who we want to be as a church?
- → United in trusting in Jesus' sacrifice
 - Why do the people prioritise building the altar?
 - What else might you have expected them to do first?
 - Why is it so important that we have as our foundation trusting in Jesus' sacrifice?
 - What goes wrong when we are not trusting in the sacrifice of Jesus?
- → United in knowing it is God that builds the church
 - What is the significance of the festival of tabernacles?
 - Why does the writer highlight that they celebrated it?

- In what ways can we ensure that we are people that celebrate that we saved?
- How can we express our dependence on God being the one that builds the church?
- → Summarise and Apply
 - What in this passage leads us to worship Jesus?
 - What do we learn about ourselves from this passage? How does it lead us to give thanks or repent?
 - How might this help us share the good news with our friends and neighbours who don't know Jesus?

PRAYER

RESPOND TO GOD IN PRAISE AND PLEADING

Use Paul's Prayer from Ephesians 3 to help you structure your prayers. Pray in response to the passage, for yourself, the church and others.

14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom every family_[a] in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, **21** to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.