

FAMILY GUIDE



September 13, 2020



Ezra 4-6
Haggai

Here's what we talked about today.

After a 70-year exile in Babylon, God's people were back in Judah. They began to rebuild the temple. But the work of rebuilding both it and the city of Jerusalem was hard, and their neighbors opposed their efforts. The people gave up. The prophet Haggai brought words from the Lord, commanding them to finish the work they had started, and comforting them with a promise of peace.

God promised to be with His people and bless them – and not only them, but the whole world through them, keeping the promise He made to Abraham long ago. (Genesis 12:3) God would send His Son, Jesus, called Immanuel – God with us.

Wheaton Bible Church
wheatonbible.org/kids

Tri-Village Church
trivillagechurch.org/kids



LET'S TALK



Get your kids talking!

What did God's people rebuild in today's Bible story?
Why did they stop rebuilding?

Take it deeper

How did rebuilding the temple bring glory to God?
How can you encourage someone who is discouraged and ready to give up hope?

Have some family fun this week!

❖ Invite family members to sit in a circle. Begin by saying, "I'm building a church today, and I need ____." Fill in the blank with a tool or material you would need and use a hand motion that describes it. The next person will repeat your statement, adding his own tool or material & hand motion, then all will repeat your statement. The third person continues as the 2nd, after whom all repeat your statement and the 2nd person's as well, etc., etc. *Say: God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a special place to worship God. Now we gather as a church to worship God in different buildings like church buildings, schools and homes.*

❖ For older kids: Demonstrate how to build a house of playing cards. Challenge family members, in pairs, to build a structure. As each partner places a card, the other must cheer him on. After several minutes, examine the structures. *Say: When God's people were rebuilding the temple in Jerusalem, God sent two prophets to encourage the people. Do you remember their names? We can read the messages God gave them in the books of the Bible that bear their names.*



SEPT. MEMORY VERSE



Who can memorize this verse first?

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."
Jeremiah 29:11

*(Preschoolers learn the words of the verse that are in **bold**.)*