



JOURNAL PAGE

Key Passage:  
Blessed is the man who  
trusts in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.  
Jeremiah 17:7

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FOLD



Unit 17 • Session 3

## THE PEOPLE REBUILT THE TEMPLE

Ezra 2-6

**CAN GOD BE TRUSTED? YES, GOD CANNOT LIE OR EVER BE WRONG,  
SO WE CAN TRUST WHATEVER HE HAS SAID.**

Zerubbabel and the high priest led a group of God's people back to Judah to rebuild the Lord's temple in Jerusalem. The priests rebuilt the altar. They gave burnt offerings to God and celebrated. They laid the foundation of the temple. The priests put on special clothes and the people praised God.

Not everyone was happy though. Some of the older people remembered what the temple had looked like before it had been destroyed. Other people interrupted the rebuilding of the temple by making the people of Judah discouraged or afraid. The building of the temple stopped for a while. God sent prophets to encourage the people.

Darius, the king of Persia, ruled over the land of Judah. He put governors in charge of some of the land. A governor named Tattenai noticed what God's people were doing. Tattenai asked, "Do you have permission to rebuild this temple?" The workers said, "We do."

King Darius's officials searched the royal records for Cyrus's order. They found it. This is what was written on the scroll: "Let God's temple be rebuilt. Let its foundation be rebuilt." King Cyrus had also ordered for the cost of building the temple to be paid for out of the royal treasury.

So King Darius sent a letter back to Tattenai. He gave this order: "Stay away from the workers in Jerusalem. Give them whatever they need."

Tattenai obeyed the king's order. The Jewish leaders finally finished the temple of God! The people celebrated and made offerings to God.

Christ Connection: God's people rebuilt the temple so they would have a place to worship God. Years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to be with His people. Now, God does not dwell with His people through the temple. Instead, God dwells directly with His people through His Spirit. Jesus provided something better than the temple; He gives us Himself.

**My child has completed the Christ Connection on his/her own and has discussed it with me:**

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_