



# Ezra & Nehemiah

A New Exodus : Restoring Identity, Worship and Mission

Mission Red Bank 2025

## Overview

In Ezra and Nehemiah, God’s people return from exile—not just to rebuild a city, but to rebuild themselves as His people. Their journey is a “new exodus”: leaving behind where they cannot remain, trusting a God who knows the way, and restoring identity, worship, and mission in the process.

As followers of Jesus, we too are invited into a new exodus—called out of comfort or compromise and into Spirit-led obedience. This eight-week series walks with God’s people from brokenness to rebuilding, learning how to trust, worship, obey, and persevere as His people in a fractured world.

## The Roadmap

Week	Title	Scripture
Week 1	Exile, Exodus, and the God Who Leads	Ezra 1, Nehemiah 1
Week 2	The Problem and the Provision	Ezra 3, Nehemiah 2
Week 3	Prayer and Prophecy: Foundation for Renewal	Ezra 9, Nehemiah 1
Week 4	Worship Restored: Centering Our Lives on YHWH	Ezra 6, Nehemiah 12
Week 5	Torah Rediscovered: Returning to the Word	Nehemiah 8
Week 6	Identity Reclaimed: Living as God’s People	Nehemiah 9-10
Week 7	Walls and Worship: Securing the Mission	Nehemiah 6-7
Week 8	The Mission Continues	Nehemiah 13

## User Guide

Follow along each week in the Daily Devotional Guide. Use the Scripture passages and reflections, *after our Sunday teaching*, to be curious and dig deeper each day. Ask God for help as we take this journey together in this “New Exodus”.

# Week 1

## *Exile, Exodus, and the God Who Leads*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Exodus 13:17–18

Reflection: God led Israel the long way to protect them.

Prayer: “Lead me, even when I don’t understand the road You choose.

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: Ezra 1:5

Reflection: God stirred the hearts of the faithful to rise up and go.

Prayer: “Stir my heart today, Lord, to step forward in faith.

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Hebrews 11:8

Reflection: Abraham obeyed without knowing where he was going.

Prayer: “Give me courage to obey even before I see.

### **Thursday:**

Reading: Psalm 121:8

Reflection: God guards our going out and coming in—forever.

Prayer: “Guard my steps today, God of my coming and going.

### **Friday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 1:11

Reflection: Nehemiah asked God to make his next step successful.

Prayer: “Bless the work of my hands today, O Lord.

begins May 26th



# Week 2

## *The Problem and the Provision*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Ezra 3:3

Reflection: They rebuilt the altar first—worship before walls.

Prayer: “Help me prioritize Your presence above everything else.”

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 2:18

Reflection: “Let us rise up and build!” Courage is contagious.

Prayer: “Give me boldness to encourage others today.

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Exodus 16:4

Reflection: God provides daily bread, not lifetime guarantees.

Prayer: “Teach me to trust You for today’s provision.

### **Thursday:**

Reading: Philippians 4:19

Reflection: God will supply every need—according to His riches.

Prayer: “Open my eyes to Your faithful provision, Lord.”

### **Friday:**

Reading: Isaiah 58:12

Reflection: You will be called “repairer of broken walls.

Prayer: “Make me a restorer in broken places today.”

begins June 2nd



# Week 3

## *Prayer and Prophecy: Foundation for Renewal*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Ezra 9:6

Reflection: Confession is the gateway to renewal.

Prayer: "Lord, I bring my brokenness to You without hiding.

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 1:6

Reflection: Nehemiah prays personally—even for others' sins.

Prayer: "Search my own heart today, Lord.

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Jeremiah 29:11

Reflection: God's plans bring hope, even in exile.

Prayer: "Help me hope in Your promises, God.

### **Thursday:**

Reading: Romans 8:26

Reflection: The Spirit helps us pray when we are weak.

Prayer: "Spirit, intercede in my weakness.

### **Friday:**

Reading: Matthew 6:10

Reflection: "Your will be done.

Prayer: "Shape my prayers to align with Your heart, Father.

begins June 9th



# Week 4

## *Worship Restored: Centering Our Lives on YHWH*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Ezra 6:16

Reflection: Worship marked the completion of rebuilding.

Prayer: "Restore joy in my worship, Lord."

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: John 4:24

Reflection: Worship in spirit and truth—not just routine.

Prayer: "Let my worship be deep and true today."

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Psalm 95:6

Reflection: "Come, let us bow down in worship.

Prayer: "Jesus, I bow my heart and life before You."

### **Thursday:**

Reading: Hebrews 13:15

Reflection: Worship is a sacrifice of praise.

Prayer: "Receive my praise today—even when it's costly."

### **Friday:**

Reading: Revelation 4:11

Reflection: "You are worthy, our Lord and God.

Prayer: "All glory belongs to You, Lord."

begins June 16th



# Week 5

## *Torah Rediscovered: Returning to the Word*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 8:3

Reflection: They listened to God's Word attentively for hours.

Prayer: "Give me ears that long to hear You, Lord."

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: Psalm 119:105

Reflection: The Word lights the path forward.

Prayer: "Light my way with Your Word today."

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: James 1:22

Reflection: Don't just hear—do.

Prayer: "Help me to obey what I read."

### **Thursday:**

Reading: 2 Timothy 3:16

Reflection: All Scripture is God-breathed and useful.

Prayer: "Breathe life into me through Your Word today."

### **Friday:**

Reading: Colossians 3:16

Reflection: Let the Word dwell richly in you.

Prayer: "Fill my heart with Your Word and wisdom."

begins June 23rd



# Week 6

## *Identity Reclaimed: Living as God's People*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 9:17

Reflection: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger.

Prayer: "Thank You for Your mercy and faithfulness, Lord."

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: 1 Peter 2:9

Reflection: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood.

Prayer: "Help me live boldly as one of Your own."

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Romans 8:16

Reflection: The Spirit confirms we are children of God.

Prayer: "Assure my heart today that I belong to You."

### **Thursday:**

Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6

Reflection: You are His treasured possession.

Prayer: "Treasure me, Lord—and teach me to treasure You."

### **Friday:**

Reading: Ephesians 2:10

Reflection: Created for good works.

Prayer: "Send me into the works You've prepared for me, God."

begins June 30th



# Week 7

## *Walls and Worship: Securing the Mission*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 6:9

Reflection: "Strengthen my hands."

Prayer: "Strengthen me to keep going in Your work, God."

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: Proverbs 25:28

Reflection: A life without boundaries is like a city with broken walls.

Prayer: "Give me Spirit-shaped boundaries to guard my life."

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Psalm 18:2

Reflection: The Lord is my fortress and stronghold.

Prayer: "Be my protection, Lord."

### **Thursday:**

Reading: Ephesians 6:11

Reflection: Put on the full armor of God.

Prayer: "Clothe me in Your strength today."

### **Friday:**

Reading: Isaiah 26:1

Reflection: Salvation is a wall around the faithful.

Prayer: "Let Your salvation guard my soul, Lord."

begins July 7th



# Week 8

## *The Mission Continues*

### **Monday:**

Reading: Nehemiah 13:11

Reflection: Nehemiah steps back in to restore what's been neglected.

Prayer: "Help me face compromise with courage, Lord."

### **Tuesday:**

Reading: Galatians 6:9

Reflection: Don't grow weary in doing good.

Prayer: "Strengthen my heart to stay faithful, even when I'm tired."

### **Wednesday:**

Reading: Philippians 1:6

Reflection: God finishes what He starts.

Prayer: "Thank You for not giving up on me, God."

### **Thursday:**

Reading: 2 Timothy 4:7

Reflection: I have fought the good fight, finished the race, kept the faith.

Prayer: "Help me be steady and faithful, Lord."

### **Friday:**

Revelation 21:5

Reflection: "Behold, I am making all things new.

Prayer: "Keep renewing me until the end, Jesus."

begins July 14th

