

Water Color

Paint whatever comes to mind as you use water colors to respond to the story of the Return from Exile found in Ezra and Nehemiah. Don't worry about what your painting looks like. Paint freely in response to God's Word.

“The joy of the Lord is your strength.” Neh. 8:10

Key Ideas:

1. God is ready to forgive and rebuild people's lives.
2. We must keep God's word or we might forget it.
3. God is faithful to each generation, even when there are problems, wars and destruction.
4. God can raise up leaders when they don't seem easy to find, even wine stewards!

Things to reflect on or talk about with others:

1. Where are you in this story? What part of the story do you like the best?
2. Nehemiah calls everyone to come listen to the books of The Law being read. Ezra the Levite steps forward and up onto a wooden platform to read and explain.

The more they heard, the more they had realized they had broken God's Laws, and the people started to cry. But Nehemiah calmed them down and told them to prepare for a happy feast. “The joy of the Lord is your strength.” Nehemiah 8:10

The people renewed the Covenant with God. The "Feast of the Tabernacles" ensues. THEN they put on sackcloth and ashes to repent. What should we be mourning.... celebrating?

3. Nehemiah means "Yahweh Comforts"
 - How does God comfort exiles?
 - How does "coming home" bring you comfort?
 - What is it about "home" that is comforting?
 - Where is God's "home"?
 - Where do you feel most spiritually "at home" (comfortable, at ease)?

Additional Information and Resources for Online Learning: www.GloriaDeiOlympia.org

Feedback, ideas, questions?
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