

Big Stuff

Describe a time you really, really wanted to go to church.

Read Zechariah 2:1-13 and Ezra 6:1-22.

1. Why would Jerusalem have more people than could fit (Zech. 2:4)?
 - A. Poor planning.
 - B. This provided encouragement to the returned exiles.
 - C. The angel was just making a guess without really knowing.
 - D. No need for protective walls to limit its size.
 - E. There would be lots and lots of people.
 - F. God's presence would draw many people.
 - G. After being desolate, there was strong interest to return.
 - H. Other.

2. What makes Jerusalem "the place to be"?
 - A. God's protective wall of fire around it.
 - B. The presence of God inside the city.
 - C. A newly rebuilt sanctuary for Yahweh.
 - D. A great vibe.
 - E. Return of the exiles after 70 years.
 - F. The change from desolation to lots of people.
 - G. A party atmosphere.
 - H. Justice.
 - I. Other.

3. In what ways is your church like Jerusalem?
 - A. God is present.
 - B. It's been desolate for a long time.
 - C. God creates a hedge of protection around it.
 - D. Everyone seems to be going there.
 - E. God sends messengers with messages from Him.
 - F. Lots of nationalities are present.
 - G. Those who left in the past have returned.
 - H. God is active there.
 - I. Other.

4. What's most amazing about the decree to rebuild the temple (Ezra 6)?

- A. The decree could still be found.
- B. Medo-Persians authorized construction of a Jewish temple.
- C. That a temple would actually be built after utter destruction.
- D. The Medo-Persians paid for it.
- E. Temple items taken by Nebuchadnezzar were returned.
- F. Few Jews chose to return.
- G. Jewish enemies were commanded to leave them alone.
- H. People remembered the details of the decree.
- I. Other.

5. For worship, rank from 1 (most important) to 9 (least important):

- ___ Facilities.
- ___ High quality programming.
- ___ Consistency.
- ___ Having special programs.
- ___ Being with lots of people.
- ___ Heart-felt involvement.
- ___ Feeling close to God.
- ___ Skilled worship leader(s).
- ___ Coming for the right reason(s).

6. What makes a worship experience special?

- A. Great location.
- B. Doing it in person rather than virtually.
- C. Inspiring preaching.
- D. Incredible music.
- E. My friends being there.
- F. God's presence.
- G. Lots of variety in programming.
- H. Sacrifices.
- I. Other.

7. Who provides spiritual encouragement for you?

8. What do you need to build in your own life right now? What needs to be built in your church right now?