

## **Sermon Message Series:** Free to Build: Ezra and Nehemiah

### **Sermon Passage:** Ezra 1:1-4

1. Following their exile, two major events occur in the life of Israel in these two Old Testament books; 1) the rebuilding of the temple and 2) the reconstruction of the city wall in Jerusalem. Imagine you are a Hebrew family, what emotions and thoughts might you have concerning these events?
2. Read Isaiah 44:28 and 45:1-7; 12-13. What does God say that He is going to do in this passage? List His actions.
3. We discover that God set His people free from captivity in order for them to rebuild His house. As believers in Christ, we have been set free. What have we been set free from? Why have we been set free?
4. Jesus is the full and final revelation of God. We discover in the New Testament, that God's House is His church. Who is part of God's church? How do they become part of His church?
5. As believers in Jesus, we've also been set free to build His church. What role do you have in building the church?

### **Moving Forward:**

Read through the book of Ezra this week. Pray that God will guide you to discover truth in this passage that will transform your life.