



Come Follow Me

HOMESCHOOL & FAMILY CURRICULUM
GRADES K-3

Week of July 27, 2026

Ezra 1; 3-7; Nehemiah 2; 4-6; 8

Monday

The Lord inspires people to accomplish His purposes.

Things weren't going so well for the Israelites. Wars continued in the land and they had been captured and brought to a kingdom called Babylonia. Jerusalem was lost, and with it...the temple.

But God knew His people. He didn't forget them. He made a way for them to return to Jerusalem. Cyrus king of Persia returned all the treasures of the temple and told them to go back and build their temple. Later, Artaxerxes king of Persia (cool name, right?) sent a message to Ezra, a priest and scribe, that he was allowed to return home to Jerusalem and could bring with him any of his friends and family that wanted to go. The Jewish nation returned home to rebuild the temple and Jerusalem. Ezra helped the people turn their hearts back to the Lord's law. The people were so happy! They worked hard and started rebuilding their temple. (Copy the scripture Ezra 3:11-12)

All the people shouted with a
great shout, when they praised
the Lord, because the foundation
of the house of the Lord was
laid. And many shouted aloud
for joy.

Takeaway: The temple is a great blessing and can bring joy to our lives! Tonight when you kneel down in prayer, take a minute to thank God for temples!

Tuesday

The house of the Lord is a place of joy.

The temple is a place of joy. The people of ancient Israel had returned home to rebuild their temple. They were so happy! Read with a parent Ezra 3:10-13. Listen to how the Israelites felt while laying the foundation of the temple. As your parent reads, circle any of the phrases that you hear that shows the emotions of the people that were present that special day (Parent note: for younger kids you will need to pause and point to the phrase).

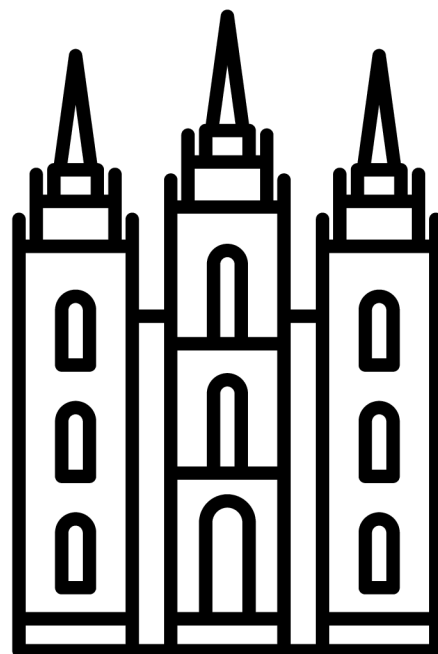
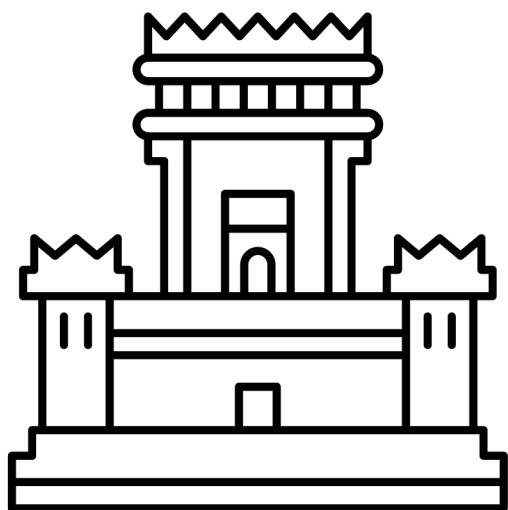
Many shouted
aloud for joy

They sang together

All the people shouted
with a great shout

Wept with a
loud voice

"Praise the Lord!"



When we complete our temples, at the dedications we do a special kind of shout. We yell the word, "Hosannah!" and wave a white handkerchief. This came from the Israelites who sang this same phrase during the feast of tabernacles. At the first temple dedication the Lord instructed the Saints to do the Hosannah Shout. The word hosannah comes from two Hebrew words which, roughly translated, mean "please save us." When Christ went into Jerusalem, riding a donkey, people laid palm leaves at his feet and waved them shouting, "Hosannah!" to Christ.

Watch on YouTube, "I Love to See the Temple." on the Gospel for Kids page.

Wednesday The Lord will help me do His “great work.”

Nehemiah was a leader in Persia who was the King’s trusted servant. He was also a Jew that loved His people. Watch his story or read about him in Old Testament Stories on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint’s app, “Nehemiah.”

While people teased, taunted, and threatened Nehemiah and those building the walls he offered a simple prayer: “Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.” (Nehemiah 6:9). Why do you think Nehemiah asked God to strengthen his hands?

Trace your hand in the space below (or on the back if you need more room) and then trace the words of Nehemiah. Inside your hand write or draw a way that YOUR hands can help build the kingdom of God. It could be being kind, sharing the gospel with a friend, serving people, or preparing a Family Home Evening, or your very own idea...you choose!

Fun Fact: Nehemiah ignored all the bullies and kept working hard to make sure Jerusalem was safe and built a wall in 52 days!



“Oh God, strengthen my hands.”

Takeaway: Our hands can be used for good or bad. Think of a way that your hands can be used to serve God or your family and make it happen!

Thursday The scriptures are a blessing.

The people of Israel had been unable to hear and know the word of God. They asked for a General Conference type of meeting and gathered together to hear the words of the Lord. Ezra the priest stood on a pulpit and shared with them the words from the scrolls that had been passed down. The people were excited to finally hear the word of the Lord. Then Ezra's friends that worked with him in the temple helped the people understand the words that were read by sharing their own thoughts.

We are so lucky today! Most of us can read, or have the opportunity to learn how to read, and we have the words of the Lord readily available to us. We don't have to wait for a prophet or priest to find them and read them to us. We can read them anytime we want! Even those who can't read can now listen to the scriptures with a click of a button. Amazing!

In the space below choose one of your favorite scripture stories and draw a picture of it, or use the box to write a few sentences describing the story. Share with a parent or sibling.

Takeaway: The time we have can be used and filled with a LOT of different things. Set aside some special time today to read or listen to a scripture story or listen to a gospel song.

Friday

Learning and connecting the gospel to me

As a family sing “Scripture Power!” and choose one or more of the following:

- Watch “Nehemiah the Builder” by Thumb Follow Me on YouTube.
- Watch “Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall” by @SaddlebackKids on Youtube.
- Watch “Ezra the Scribe” by @pursueGodkids on Youtube.
- Watch “Ezra Song/Kid’s Animated Bible Song...” by @SproutsofFaith on Youtube.
- Choose an article out of the Friend Magazine and read it together.
- Listen to Elder Uchtdorf’s talk “We Are Doing a Great Work and Cannot Come Down” from the April 2009 General Conference while you color the image below.



Come Follow Me

HOMESCHOOL & FAMILY CURRICULUM
GRADES 4-8



Week of July 27, 2026

Ezra 1; 3-7; Nehemiah 2; 4-6; 8

Monday

The Lord will fight battles with us.

Things weren't going so well for the Israelites. Wars continued in the land and they had been captured and brought to a kingdom called Babylonia. Jerusalem was lost, and with it...the temple. But God knew His people. He didn't forget them. He made a way for them to return to Jerusalem. Cyrus king of Persia returned all the treasures of the temple and told them to go back and build their temple. Later, Artaxerxes king of Persia (cool name, right?) sent a message to Ezra the prophet that he was allowed to return home to Jerusalem and could bring with him any of his friends and family that wanted to go. So, the Jewish nation returned home to rebuild the temple and Jerusalem. The people were so happy! They worked hard and started rebuilding their temple. Copy the scriptures from Ezra 3:11 in your best handwriting.

They sang together by praising and
giving thanks unto the Lord; because
he is good, for his mercy endureth
forever toward Israel. And all the
people shouted with a great shout, when
they praised the Lord, because the
foundation of the house of the Lord
was laid.

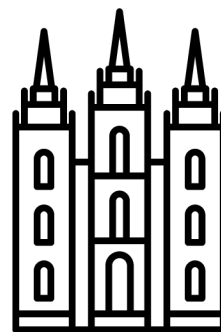
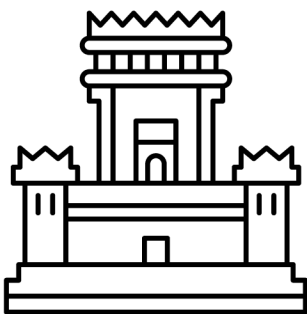
Tuesday

The house of the Lord is a place of joy.

After the ruling of so many kings that would not keep the law of the Lord, the Israelites were eventually captured by the Babylonians. When they invaded Jerusalem they ransacked the temple, then burned it to the ground (Read 2 Kings 25:1-10). They carried all the treasures off to Babylon. The righteous people of Jerusalem, and the priests of the temple must have felt devastated to see their place of worship destroyed. Read Psalms 137 (this scripture was written in regards to this captivity). What were the Israelites feeling according to this scripture?

Decades later, they were allowed to return and rebuild their temple. Read Ezra 3:10-13. Listen to how the Israelites felt while laying the foundation of the temple. Write down some of the emotions that they felt in completing just the foundation of a temple.

That might prompt you to ponder your own feelings about the Lord and His house. Why is the building of a temple a reason to celebrate?



When we complete our temples, at the dedications we do a special kind of shout. We yell the word, “Hosannah!” and wave a white handkerchief. This came from the Israelites who sang this same phrase during the feast of tabernacles with Moses. At the first temple dedication in Kirtland, Ohio the Lord instructed the Saints to do the Hosannah Shout. The word hosannah comes from two Hebrew words which, roughly translated, mean “please save us.” When Christ went into Jerusalem, riding a donkey, people laid palm leaves at his feet and waved them shouting, “Hosannah!” to Christ.

Takeaway: Don't be afraid to rejoice with joy at the things of Christ! Challenge yourself to share your testimony this year at the pulpit (or with your family during a Family Home Evening) and what brings you joy in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday

God has an important work for me to do.

In a patriarchal blessings, some people look forward to hearing what tribe they are adopted into, what blessings are available to them, what warnings God has for them, and also maybe if something special needs to be done during their lifetime. But we don't have to wait to learn what our gifts are, and to know that God has something special in store for us. Write down what some gifts are that you were born with on the following lines. Ideas? These might be gifts of music, patience, love, friendship, learning, understanding, building, creating, etc. If you get stuck you could ask a parent, sibling, or friend to help you know what some of your gifts are.

Doing the work of the Lord, and the work we were designed to do, doesn't mean it won't come easy. There will always be opposition in all things. Zerubbabel (another fun name, say that 10 times fast!) and Nehemiah both had a work to do, but they both faced trials and troubles as they went about doing it. Fill in the following chart, reading the scriptures to learn about these two builders of the Kingdom.

	God's work to accomplish	Trials and opposition faced	Response to trials and opposition
ZERUBBABEL	READ EZRA 4:3	READ EZRA 4:4-6 & 4:11-24	READ EZRA 5:2
NEHEMIAH	READ NEHEMIAH 2:17-18	READ NEHEMIAH 2:19; 4:1-3; 6:6-8	READ NEHEMIAH 2:20; 4:6; 4:9; 6:3-4
MYSELF	WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP BUILD THE KINGDOM?	WHAT TRIALS MIGHT I FACE OR AM FACING?	WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM ZERUBBABEL AND NEHEMIAH WHEN I'M FACED WITH TRIALS?

Takeaway: We will face trials and struggles while accomplishing our goals and God's work. When we continue to press forward we can accomplish great things. Think about something you want to put more effort into, and push yourself to finish the job this week, saying a prayer that God will strengthen your hands (or your mind).

Thursday

I am blessed when I study the scriptures.

The people of Israel had been unable to hear and know the word of God. They asked for a General Conference type of meeting and gathered together to hear the words of the Lord. Ezra the priest stood on a pulpit and shared with them the words from the scrolls that had been passed down. The people were excited to finally hear the word of the Lord. Then Ezra's friends that worked with him in the temple helped the people understand the words that were read by sharing their own thoughts.

We are so lucky today! Most of us can read, or have the opportunity to learn how to read, and we have the words of the Lord readily available to us. We don't have to wait for a prophet or priest to find them and read them to us. We can read them anytime we want! Even those who can't read can now listen to the scriptures with a click of a button. Amazing!

Copy the quote from President Ezra Taft Benson from Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Ezra Taft Benson, Chapter 8.

"The word of God, as found in the scriptures, in the words of living prophets, and in personal revelation, has the power to fortify the saints & arm them with the spirit so they can resist evil, hold fast to the good, & find joy in this life."

Takeaway: The scriptures are a blessing! Being able to read? A blessing! "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." - Psalms 119:105. "Feast upon the words of Christ...[they] will tell you all things what ye should do." - 2 Nephi 32:3.

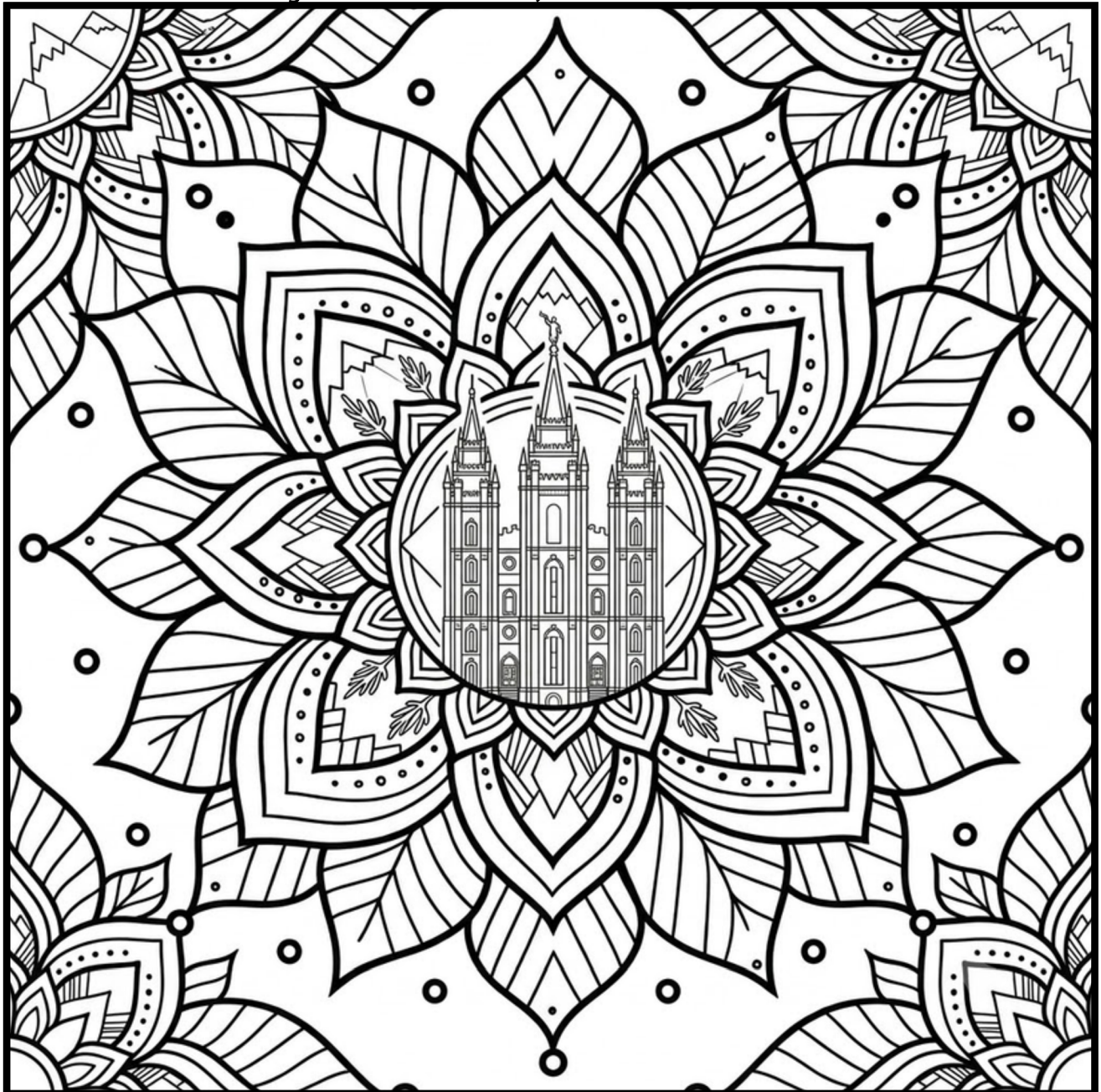
Take some time to reflect upon the idea that we have so much gospel knowledge at our fingertips. We have all that we need to fill our souls with the joy that the Israelites so desperately had to wait for. One way we can show that gratitude? Read your scriptures with a little more thanksgiving.

Friday

Learning and connecting the gospel to me

As a family sing “Scripture Power!” and choose one or more of the following:

- Watch “Nehemiah the Builder” by Thumb Follow Me on YouTube.
- Watch “Nehemiah Rebuilds the Wall” by @SaddlebackKids on Youtube.
- Watch “Ezra the Scribe” by @pursueGodkids on Youtube.
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- Listen to Elder Uchtdorf’s talk “We Are Doing a Great Work and Cannot Come Down” from the April 2009 General Conference while you color the image below.
- Choose an article to read out of the Friend Magazine or For the Strength of Youth Magazine (depending on the age of the child Primary vs. YM/YW)
- Read the topics under “Scripture Helps” for this week’s Come Follow Me (“Click to See More” has some great information!)



Answer Key (for parents)

Any of these answers
can be used to help
you, but welcome
other ideas for from
your kiddo!



	God's work to accomplish	Trials and opposition faced	Response to trials and opposition
ZERUBBABEL	BUILD THE HOUSE FOR THE LORD (THE TEMPLE)	LETTERS WERE WRITTEN TO THE KING OF PERSIA WITH FALSE INFORMATION TO STOP THE WORK FROM PROGRESSING	THEY BEGAN TO BUILD ANYWAY
NEHEMIAH	BUILD A WALL AROUND JERUSALEM TO PROTECT IT FROM HARM	PEOPLE CAME TO MAKE FUN OF THE BUILDERS, THEY TRIED TO DISTRACT THEM, THEY INVITED THEM TO STOP AND COME HANG OUT	THEY CONTINUED TO BUILD THE WALL UNTIL IT WAS COMPLETED, THEY PRAYED, AND SET GUARDS TO PROTECT THE WORK IN PROGRESS.
MYSELF	ANSWERS VARY	ANSWERS VARY	ANSWERS VARY