

RETURN, REBUILD, RESTORE

Summit Christian Athletics August Devotional



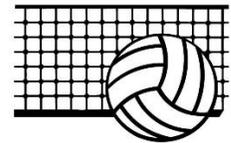
EZRA 1:1-6

In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and also to put it in writing:

“This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:

“The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Any of his people among you may go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the Lord, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem, and may their God be with them. And in any locality where survivors may now be living, the people are to provide them with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with freewill offerings for the temple of God in Jerusalem.”

Then the family heads of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and Levites—everyone whose heart God had moved—prepared to go up and build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem. All their neighbors assisted them with articles of silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with valuable gifts, in addition to all the freewill offerings.



INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION

Players & Coaches: Use this space to write down a prayerful reflection on how this scripture applies to your team

TEAM REFLECTION

1. The Jews in Babylon had been waiting to return to their homeland of Jerusalem...similar to how our fall teams have been waiting to begin competition. What does waiting on God teach us?

2. How can you help your team “build a temple” for the Lord this season? Instead of gold, goods, or livestock, what can you offer to help your team with their mission?

3. Not all of the Jews from Babylon actually decided to return to Jerusalem. It says in verse 5 it was only those “whose heart God had moved.” How is God moving in your heart to be a good teammate as we “Return, Rebuild, Restore” together?

