

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

## Scripture

Ezra 1:1-5; 3:1-6,10-13

## Session Summary

As fulfilled by the promises of God, the Israelites returned to Jerusalem and Cyrus invited the people to participate in the rebuilding of the temple. Therefore, the Israelites committed themselves to the reconstruction of the temple and sacrificial worship. They all had a common goal as they partnered together, setting aside their differences as they committed themselves to the work of God. The people celebrated the goodness of God and worshiped Him. As the foundation was laid, songs of praise and thanksgiving were sang and shouted as they declared and saw that God was with them.

## Conversation Questions

- How does this passage encourage our family to trust in the promises of God?
- Where is God calling our family to serve right now? Are we obeying?
- How have we been intentional in worshiping God beyond our Sunday mornings at church?
- How should the love and mercy that God has shown us overflow to our love and compassion for those around us?

## Family Challenge

Purchase a large pack of plastic cups and work together as a family to build a giant tower with the cups, or, if you're feeling extra creative, build a unique construction of some sort. Each member of your family should play a part in the construction. When you finish, discuss how each of you have been called to serve God in a unique way but for the ultimate goal of building His kingdom. And while serving God requires work, it should be done with a joyful heart and in response to His unfailing love for us.