

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

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CONVERSATION

The People Sang

EZRA 2:68-70; 3:1-13

The people of Israel were held as prisoners in Babylon for many years. Finally, they were allowed to return home. When they arrived in Jerusalem, some of the family leaders gave offerings of gold coins, silver, and clothes for the priests so that God's house could be rebuilt.

The people settled in their towns. After several months they gathered in Jerusalem, and the work on the temple began. The first thing the workers built was an altar to offer sacrifices to God. Even though they were surrounded by enemies, the people made sacrifices every morning and every evening. They celebrated, worshiped, and sacrificed before the foundation was ready. They gave money to the stonecutters and artists so they could gather cedar wood.

When the workers finally completed the temple's foundation, the priests put on robes and played trumpets. The Levites played cymbals. Together they sang with praise and thanksgiving to God: "He is good! His faithful love to Israel endures forever!"

All the people gave great shouts of praise. Many of the older people remembered the first temple. They wept loudly when they saw the foundation of the new temple. Others shouted for joy. People could not tell the difference between the weeping and the shouts because everyone was so loud. The sound was heard far away.

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE: Psalm 95:6

LIFE POINT: The church sings to praise and thank God.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, today your child heard that the church sings to praise and thank God. When the Israelites returned from Babylon, they thanked God that the temple was being rebuilt. How does your family praise and thank God?

LIVE IT OUT

We can praise and thank God by singing to Him. Remind your child that the Book of Psalms is a book of songs. Help your child memorize Psalm 95:6. Lead your child to kneel and give thanks to God for who He is and what He has done.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God wants people to gather to worship Him.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Sunday: Psalm 95:6
Monday: James 5:13
Tuesday: Psalm 100:1-2
Wednesday: Acts 16:25
Thursday: Revelation 15:3
Friday: Psalm 9:11
Saturday: Ezra 3:11

TAKE IT FURTHER: Check out *The People Sang* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.



Come, let us worship
and bow down; let
us kneel before the
LORD our Maker.
PSALM 95:6 (CSB)

Ways to PRAISE

The Book of Psalms contains songs that were written and sung by Old Testament people. Many of them were written to praise and thank God. Read Psalm 100. Draw circles around the action words. Underline the phrases that describe God's character.

Psalm 100

Let the whole earth shout triumphantly to the LORD!

Serve the LORD with gladness;
Come before him with joyful songs.

Acknowledge that the LORD is God.
He made us, and we are his—
His people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

For the LORD is good, and his
faithful love endures forever;
His faithfulness, through all
generations.

WORSHIP Snapshot

Think about your experience at church today or from another week.

For Fun!

Just for fun, try singing Psalm 100 to a familiar tune, such as "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" or "Happy Birthday."

The song I liked best was ...

Our church worshiped by ...