

Reply

Ezra: Facing Opposition

Text: Ezra 4-5:5

Purpose: *God has made a way for His people to rebuild the temple. In the midst of their efforts, they face extreme opposition almost causing them to give up. Their perseverance and God's support keep them focused.*

Opening Question: *Most difficult thing you've built, made or project completed?*

Read and Discuss: Ezra 4-5:5

1. *Do you think the "enemies" were genuine in their desire to help rebuild the temple? In your life how do you discern people's motives?*
2. *Why was rebuilding the temple an important part of this story? What does that say about God?*
3. *How difficult do you think it was for Zerubbabel, Joshua and the rest of the heads of the families to reject help to rebuild the temple? When was a time that God told you to do something and you faced push back from other people?*
4. *How do you respond to opposition in your life? What helps you to persevere when you sense push back for following God?*
5. *Where do you see God supporting and encouraging you? What does His support or encouragement look like?*