

**Reading assignment for May 7-13;** Ezra 8-10; Nehemiah 1-13; Esther 1-7

**Theme:** Spiritual reform requires commitment

**Memory:** Esther 4:14 *"...yet who know whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"*

**Consider/discuss**

1. The book of Ezra details what the people did to rebuild their temple and culture in Jerusalem.
  - A. What did the leaders call on the people to do in 8:21?
  - B. What did the leaders call on the people to do in chapters 9 & 10?
2. The book of Nehemiah describes how the people rebuilt the protective wall around the city of Jerusalem. Verse 4 of chapter 1 shows how the project actually began. What did Nehemiah do in verse 4 and what does this say about the attitude needed to bring about spiritual reform in a community?
3. What were the five things Nehemiah did in chapter 2 as he prepared to start the project?
4. What strategy did Nehemiah implement in chapter 4?
5. Describe what took place in chapter 8, noting what the people did and what the circumstances were like. What does this say about the value system of the people?
6. Additional reform was necessary in chapter 13. Describe what took place in this chapter and why the reform was necessary.
7. The book of Esther describes the process of God placing a young lady in the right position to rescue the Jewish people from destruction.
  - A. What did she do in chapter 2 to put herself in position to be used of God in a significant way?
  - B. What did she do in chapter 7 to put herself in position to be used of God in a significant way?