

Ezra: God Sends Ezra to Restore God's People Ezra 3:1-13; 7:1-10; 9:6-10:17



God preserves some of his people, the Israelites, after they spend years in exile. God lets the Israelites return to Jerusalem, where they find the Temple in ruins and rebuild it. Later, God sends Ezra to rebuild people's *hearts*. God sees our hearts, and he can rebuild us when we sin.

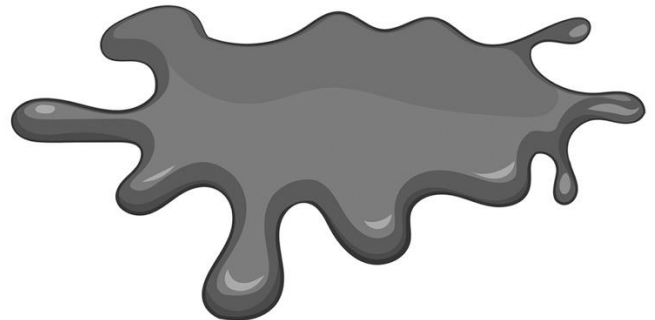


"For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13).

Family Together Time

Make some fun goo to show how God sees and shapes our hearts. Have everyone make a batch following this recipe.

- Put 3 tablespoons of glue and 1 teaspoon of warm water in a bowl, and stir it up.
- Add in 1 teaspoon of liquid starch and ¼ teaspoon of baking soda, and stir some more.
- Add another ½ teaspoon of water, and stir until it's solid enough to shape with your hands.
- Build something with the goo. It will plop right back into a blob.
- Keep building and playing with the goo. The more you play with your goo, the longer it will hold its shape before turning back into a blob.
- Talk about how the more we spend time with God, the more he'll shape our hearts and help our hearts stay committed to him.



Talk About This...

- Tell about a time you knew God was changing your heart.