



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9  
Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges - Esther  
Unit 9, Lesson 45

## Ezra Teaches God's People

Lesson Aim: To inspire confession and repentance  
according to God's Word.

### THE WELCOME

**MEET & GREET:** Who is your favorite teacher?

**GAME:** Reverse Your Way

### THE WORSHIP THE KING WHO BUILDS HIS KINGDOM

Read Worship Scripture: 1 John 1:8-9

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook.

### THE WORD EZRA AND GOD'S PEOPLE CONFESS AND REPENT

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: King Josiah led his people to hear and obey God's Word.

**God sent Ezra to Jerusalem to teach the people to obey God's laws and to appoint fair and right judges to uphold those laws.** Point out Jerusalem, Israel. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Ezra 7:6, 9-10, 25, 27; 9:6; 10:1. Find and Highlight Key Verse Ezra 7:10 First. Pray. Read Ezra 7: 6, 9-10. **The King wrote a letter to Ezra describing Ezra's job.** Read Ezra 7:25. **Ezra praised God about the king's choice.** Read Ezra 7:27. **Let's hear what happened when he arrived.** Read Ezra 9:6; 10:1.

### THE WAY CONFESSING AND REPENTING

**What did King Artaxerxes send Ezra to do?** (To teach the people to obey God's laws.) **God chose Ezra. Ezra studied and obeyed God's laws and he loved to teach those laws. What would you like to teach others about God?**

**When Ezra arrived in Jerusalem, how were the people disobeying God's laws?** (They were marrying people who worshipped idols.) **What did he do?** (He confessed their sin to God.) **What does it mean to confess sin?** (To admit wrongdoing to God.) **Why was Ezra crying?** (He was upset the people were disobeying God.) **Who joined Ezra?** (A crowd of men,

women, and children.) **They were so sorry for their sins that they cried, too. During our worship time today, we had a special time to confess our sins. The Bible says God always forgives those who believe in Jesus when they confess their sins.**

**Have you ever been so sorry for your wrongdoing that you cried? After confessing, Ezra led the people to repent. To repent means to turn from disobeying and turn toward God to do things His way. We are not truly sorry for our sin unless we want to repent. When we confess and repent, we show God He is most important in our lives.**

**Let's make a list of things children your age sometimes do that are wrong in God's eyes. Write list of sins on a poster board or dry erase board. Now, let's brainstorm ways to repent from these sins, by replacing a wrong behavior with a right one. What is the right choice we can turn to instead of continuing to make this wrong choice?** With each sin on the list, guide children in discovering a specific way to stop the wrongdoing and to turn toward doing it God's way.

### **CHRIST CONNECTION:**

**More than 500 years after Ezra led the people to confess their sins and repent, Jesus told a parable to help us understand how important it is to God that we repent.** Reveal Luke 15:8-10. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

**What happens in heaven when one sinner repents?** (There is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God.) **God sees you and knows your heart. He sees you when you choose to turn away from sin and turn to God to do things His way. That is repenting. Each time you repent, heaven celebrates!**

**THE GOLDEN BOWL:** Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

### **FINAL FIVE MINUTES:**

- TREASURE TREAT: "Ask Me About Ezra" sticker
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Ezra and the crowd praying and crying
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

### GOT TIME?

**SNACK:** Salty Tears Snack

**GAME:** I Packed My Bag

**CRAFT:** Favorite Proverbs Book—Scripture

**DISCUSSION:** Proverbs Challenge

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES:** Build the Wall Verse, Royal Corners

**BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**