

Picking up the Broken Pieces
Franklin Heights Church
June 7, 2026
Rocky Mount-CrossPointe-Union Hall-Recovery Church-Español

Text: Ezra 8:21-23 (ESV)

1. God restores broken pieces through _____ people.

Ezra 8:1 (ESV)

These are the heads of their fathers' houses, and this is the genealogy of those who went up with me from Babylonia, in the reign of Artaxerxes the king:

Ezra 7:9 (ESV)

For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylonia, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem, for the good hand of his God was on him.

Ezra 8:15 (ESV)

I gathered them to the river that runs to Ahava, and there we camped three days. As I reviewed the people and the priests, I found there none of the sons of Levi.

Ezra 8:16-17 (ESV)

Then I sent for Eliezer, Ariel, Shemaiah, Elnathan, Jarib, Elnathan, Nathan, Zechariah, and Meshullam, leading men, and for Joiarib and Elnathan, who were men of insight, and sent them to Iddo, the leading man at the place Casiphia, telling them what to say to Iddo and his brothers and the temple servants at the place Casiphia, namely, to send us ministers for the house of our God.

Ezra 8:18-19 (ESV)

And by the good hand of our God on us, they brought us a man of discretion, of the sons of Mahli the son of Levi, son of Israel, namely Sherebiah with his sons and kinsmen, 18; also Hashabiah, and with him Jeshaiiah of the sons of Merari, with his kinsmen and their sons, 20;

Luke 9:23 (ESV)

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.

2. God restores broken pieces through _____ prayer.

Ezra 8:21 (ESV)

Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from him a safe journey for ourselves, our children, and all our goods.

Ezra 8:22 (ESV)

For I was ashamed to ask the king for a band of soldiers and horsemen to protect us against the enemy on our way, since we had told the king, "The hand of our God is for good on all who seek him, and the power of his wrath is against all who forsake him."

Ezra 8:23 (ESV)

So we fasted and implored our God for this, and he listened to our entreaty.

Deuteronomy 4:29 (ESV)

But from there you will seek the LORD your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul.

3. God restores broken pieces through _____ obedience.

Ezra 8:24 (ESV)

Then I set apart twelve of the leading priests: Sherebiah, Hashabiah, and ten of their kinsmen with them.

Ezra 8:28 (ESV)

And I said to them, "You are holy to the LORD, and the vessels are holy, and the silver and the gold are a freewill offering to the LORD, the God of your fathers.

Ezra 8:31 (ESV)

Then we departed from the river Ahava on the twelfth day of the first month, to go to Jerusalem. The hand of our God was on us, and he delivered us from the hand of the enemy and from ambushes by the way.