

Connect Group Study Guide - 5

Title: *You're Not Finished Yet: You Can Build Again*

Text: Ezra 5:1–5 (NIV)

Theme: God reawakens purpose, provides people, and preserves progress in seasons of spiritual delay.

Series: *Brick by Brick*

Session Objectives

- To reawaken callings and dreams that have been paused
 - To identify the importance of spiritual community during seasons of rebuilding
 - To reinforce the truth that God's eye is still on the builders
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Read the Passage Together - Ezra 5:1–5 (NIV)

(1) Now Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the prophet, a descendant of Iddo, prophesied to the Jews in Judah and Jerusalem in the name of the God of Israel, who was over them. (2) Then Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel and Joshua son of Jozadek set to work to rebuild the house of God in Jerusalem. And the prophets of God were with them, supporting them. (3) At that time Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-Bozenai and their associates went to them and asked, "Who authorized you to rebuild this temple and to finish it?" (4) They also asked, "What are the names of those who are constructing this building?" (5) But the eye of their God was watching over the elders of the Jews, and they were not stopped until a report could go to Darius and his written reply be received.

Sermon Summary - Recap

After a 16-year delay in building the temple, God reignites His people through prophetic voices, faithful leadership, and divine protection. This sermon outlines three main points:

- 1. Prophetic Push – God Will Prompt You Forward (v. 1)**
God sends Haggai and Zechariah to stir the hearts of the people with His word.
➤ *Sometimes you don't need a new plan—just a fresh word from God.*
 - 2. People Power – God Will Place Partners Beside You (v. 2)**
Zerubbabel and Joshua begin rebuilding—but not alone. The prophets support them.
➤ *You don't need a crowd, you need a crew.*
 - 3. Protected Progress – God Will Preserve You Through Pressure (v. 5)**
Even as opposition rises, "the eye of their God was watching over them."
➤ *You are not unprotected just because you are opposed.*
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Discussion Questions

Section 1 - Prophetic Push: God Will Prompt You Forward

1. Have you ever felt “stuck” spiritually or emotionally? What helped get you moving again?
2. What kind of words (scripture, encouragement, challenge) have reignited your passion in the past?
3. **Reflection:** Is there a calling or assignment you feel God is waking up again?

Section 2 - People Power: God Will Place Partners Beside You

4. Who are the “prophets” or builders in your life who keep you going?
5. Why is community essential during times of rebuilding?
6. **Challenge:** How can you be a Haggai or Zechariah to someone this week?
7. **Illustration Tie-In:** How does the “Remember the Titans” story reflect biblical community?

Section 3 - Protected Progress: God Will Preserve You Through Pressure

8. What opposition have you faced when trying to rebuild or obey God?
 9. How does knowing “God’s eye is on you” change the way you approach that opposition?
 10. Read Philippians 1:6 aloud. What does this verse mean to you today?
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Until Next Time

1. **Recommit to a Calling:**
Write down one thing God has called you to build (faith, ministry, relationship, healing, discipline). Take a practical next step this week to resume that work.
2. **Encouragement Card:**
Write a short note, text, or message to someone who may have stopped building. Remind them: *“You’re not finished yet. You can build again.”*
3. **Prayer Partner:**
Pair up with someone in the group and commit to pray for each other’s “rebuilding work” throughout the week.