

GOD'S HAND, OUR HEART

Pastor Jason Gerdes 3/23/2025

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you open your eyes to the truth of the word, to understand it and apply it.

READ (What does God say?)

As you're reading there may be things that jump out at you that you want to highlight or you have questions about. Take note of any repetition in the words you see.

READ the following verses out loud and answer the EXAMINE questions: Main Scripture:

Ezra 7:1-10; 25-28 ESV

EXAMINE (What does God mean?)

- What is going on in these passages?
- What stuck out to you?
- Where did you see Jesus in this passage?
- Did these verses bring up any questions?

APPLY (What does God want us to do?)

As we REAP God's Word it is so important to apply it to our lives. Application implies action. Good news, though, we are not alone in trying to understand and apply God's Word to our lives! God has filled us with His Spirit who helps us and guides us to truth.

Consider these questions:

- What is God teaching you in this passage?
- Was there anything encouraging or convicting in this passage?

- Did this correct any wrong thinking?
- What does God want you to stop doing?
- What does God want you to do?

Below are quotes and points from the message and ways this week's scriptures apply to us:

- God's hand signifies God's help
- Setting our heart is the key to receiving God's help
- God's hand has extended God's love to us for us to take it and then extend it to others

PRAY (Respond to God's Word using scripture to pray.)

Reference back to the scriptures, use God's words, pray through them and also pray for your needs.

For example: Psalm 103:8 says, "The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." Praying through this scripture may look like this:

Father, thank you for your word. Thank you that you are merciful and gracious. I'm so glad you are slow to get angry with me. Remind me of the grace available to me when I doubt and when I sin. I can't believe that your love never ends or fails! You are amazing. Amen!