

# EZRA 8

February 4, 2024

## GOD'S VISION FOR THE WORLD

Genesis 12:1-2 *The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.*

Psalm 67:1-2 *May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us – SO THAT your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations.*

## GOD'S INVITATION TO HIS PEOPLE

Ezra 8:21-23 *By the Ahava Canal, I (Ezra), proclaimed a fast so that we might humble ourselves before our God and ask him for a safe journey for us and our children, with all our possessions. I was ashamed to ask the king for soldiers to protect us from enemies on the road, because we had told the king, "The gracious hand of our God is on everyone who looks to him, but his great anger is against all who forsake him." So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and he answered our prayer.*

- Prayer: A \_\_\_\_\_ with God, where we \_\_\_\_\_ God, we \_\_\_\_\_ to God's Word and Spirit, and we \_\_\_\_\_ to God about what we think, feel, and need.
- Fasting: A prescribed time of self-denial, where we \_\_\_\_\_ our desire for God is greater than anything else.

## GOD'S WORKING AT OPCM

OPCM Mission Statement: "Knowing Jesus and Making Him Known."

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