

# Ezra 10.<sup>1-17</sup>

## Putting things right

### Needing to be mended

Sometimes things get broken or stop working properly.

It's not much fun when that happens!

Like .... it's fun going out for a ride on your bike with your friends:



but it's no fun if something goes wrong ....

Like if you fall off your bike, for instance, and hurt yourself ...



.. or if you get a puncture in one of your tyres (it's even worse if both tyres are punctured!) ....



# Fixing what's broken ..

Today's passage in the Bible is about fixing what's broken



So, if your bike's got a puncture .. you'll have to mend it and then pump up the tyre again ...

Sometimes it's **YOU** that needs to get fixed ..



..if you've fallen and hurt yourself badly ...

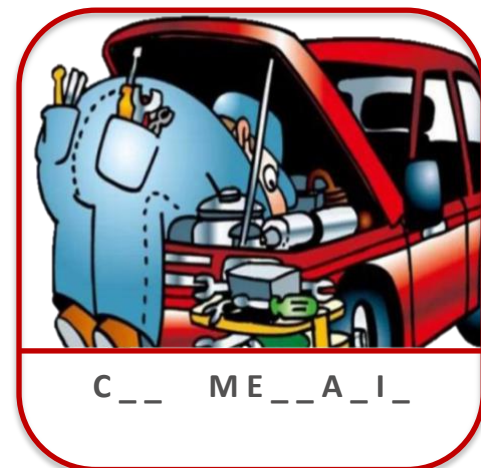
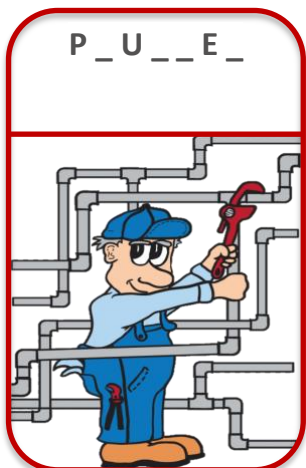
It's not much fun, for sure, whenever things go wrong!

And it can be really hard to fix what's broken – and sometimes it can be quite painful as well!



## Here are some people who are fixing things...

Can you work out who they are and what they fix?



# Ezra knew that there were things which needed to be fixed ...

The people in Jerusalem hadn't paid much attention to what God had said in the Bible: they weren't living the way God meant them to live.

It was as if the life of the people was falling apart. And Ezra knew that it was important to get things fixed.



Can you see what **Shekaniah** said the problem was?

Use the letters below and write in what he said was needing to be fixed.

Read

## Ezra 10.1-4

While Ezra was praying and confessing, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a large crowd of Israelites – men, women and children – gathered round him. They too wept bitterly.<sup>2</sup> Then **Shekaniah** son of Jehiel, one of the descendants of Elam, said to Ezra, 'We have been **unfaithful to our God** by marrying foreign women from the peoples around us. But in spite of this, there is still hope for Israel.<sup>3</sup> Now let us make a covenant before our God to send away all these women and their children, in accordance with the counsel of my lord and of those who fear the commands of our God. Let it be done according to the Law.<sup>4</sup> Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it.'

I H U N G    D O U R  
F O O T    F A U L T

The people had been ..

— — — — —

— — — — —

— — —

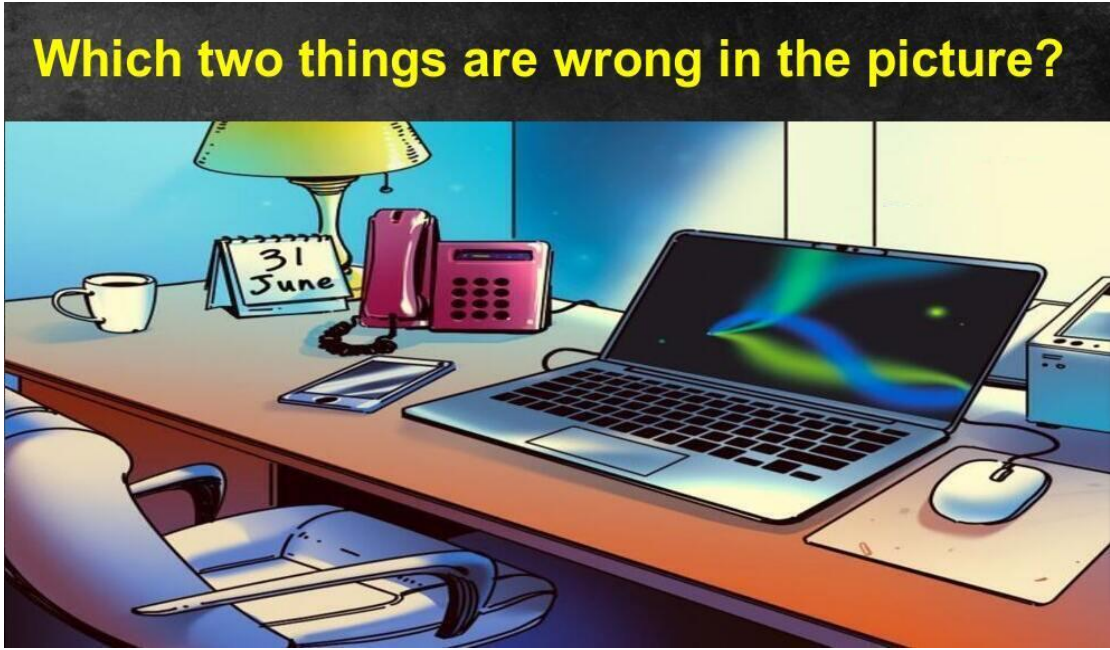


# The people had ignored what God had told them.

Now they had started to realise that they'd gone wrong in their lives.

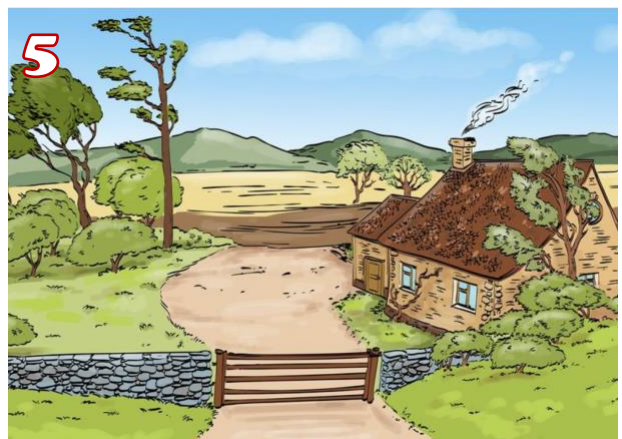
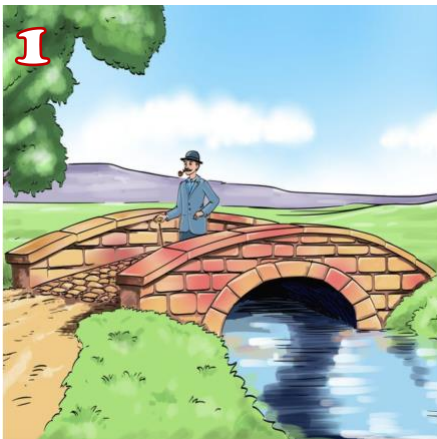
How good are you at seeing that things have gone wrong?

Try this puzzle: can you see what's wrong?



1.....  
.....  
2.....  
.....

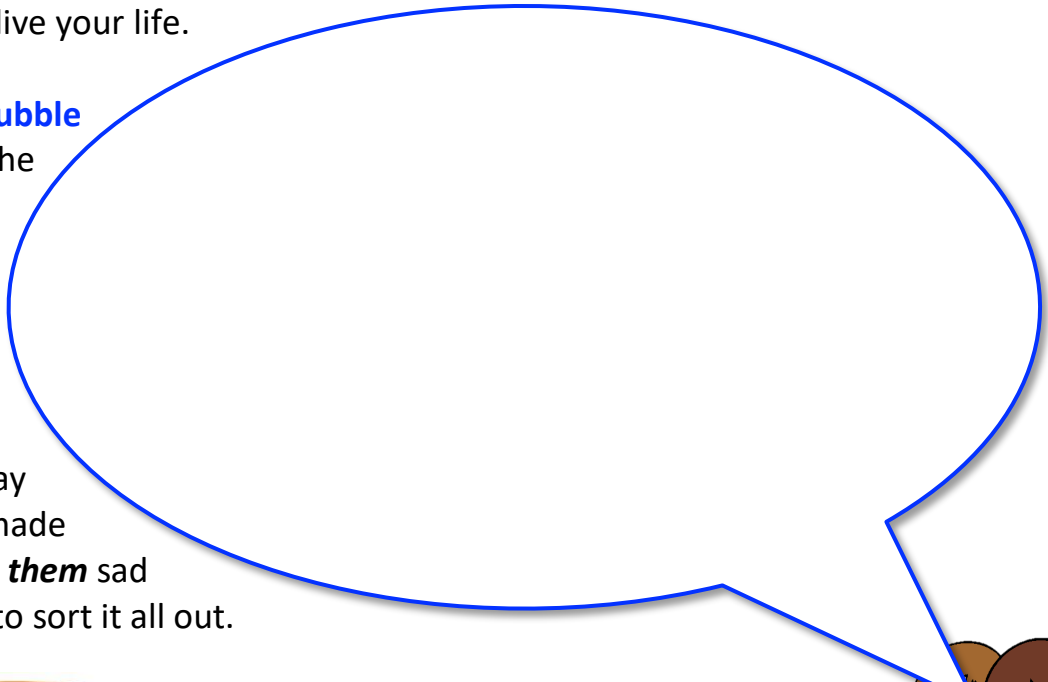
You'll find the answer at the very end of the worksheet – but write your answer before you look!  
See if you can see what's wrong with each of the pictures below too (answers on the last page)



# What's wrong in your life ....?

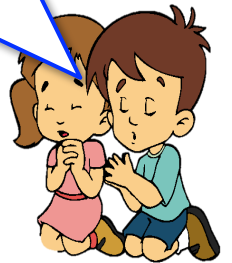
Think about how you live your life.

Write in the **speech bubble** things which are not the way God means you should behave ...



The people in Ezra's time knew that the way they had been living made God very sad. It made **them** sad too and they wanted to sort it all out.

Remember **this word** from last week?



Ezra knew that being sorry means being sorry enough to change things and to do something about whatever is wrong in our lives.

He made sure that the people knew that too!

And so he gathered everyone together and told them what they would need to do.

Read

## Ezra 10.10-11

<sup>10</sup>Then Ezra the priest stood up and said to them, 'You have been unfaithful; you have married foreign women, adding to Israel's guilt. <sup>11</sup>Now honour the Lord, the God of your ancestors, and do his will. Separate yourselves from the peoples around you and from your foreign wives.'

**What were the two things** Ezra said they were to do?

**H** \_\_\_\_\_ **L** \_\_\_\_\_

**S** \_\_\_\_\_ **Y** \_\_\_\_\_

# Honour the Lord

Colour in the words above! Make the words stand out!

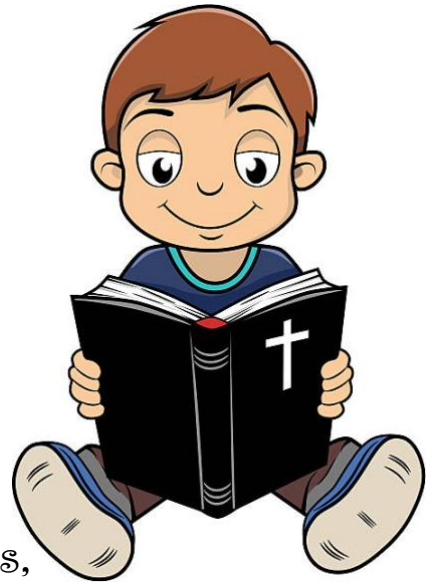
## Read v.11 again

Now honour the Lord, the God of your ancestors,

.. .. and do his will


The way you honour the Lord is by being careful to live your life the way God wants you to live it – by doing His will.

Make sure you're learning from the Bible .. and then doing what it says!



# Separate yourselves

Colour in these words too, and make the words stand out again!

Saying  **SORRY** to God also means getting rid of things in our lives which shouldn't be there.

Ask yourself – is this good?

- What I'm about to say ..
- What I'm going to do ..
- What I'm going to think ..
- What I'm going to watch ..

And is it going to do others good?



- Bad words ..
- Bad habits ..
- Bad choices ..
- Bad thoughts ..
- Bad attitudes ..
- Bad company ..



# A prayer

Think about what you've been learning today.  
Now try praying this prayer (or making up your own prayer!)

Thank You, Jesus, for what You teach me from the Bible.

I'm glad that I read in the Bible about people who've got things wrong – because there are lots of things wrong in my life and it makes me feel better knowing I'm not the only one like that!

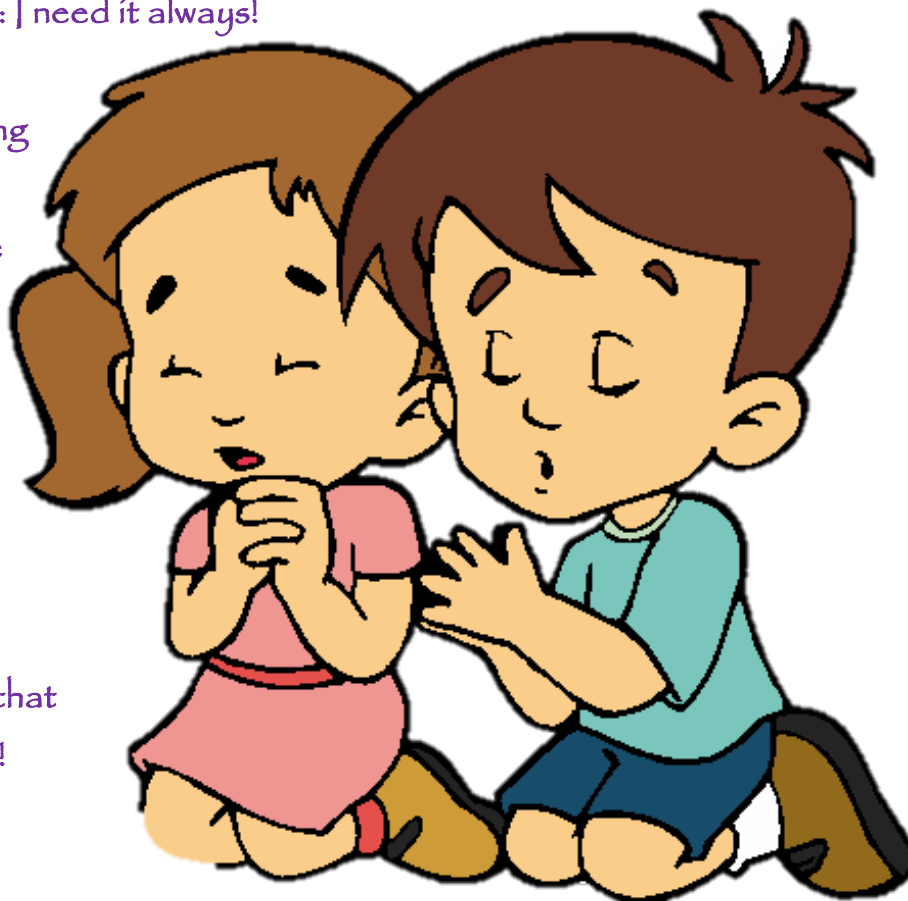
I'm sorry for all the things that are wrong in my life – like when I shout and say nasty things; or stamp my feet and slam the door; or throw toys across the room because I'm so angry.

Thank You that You died on the cross so I could be forgiven: I'm glad that You give us a new start: I need it always!

Thank You, too, for teaching me today about what saying 'Sorry' means: that it's more than just saying the words.

Please help me to learn to 'do Your will': and help me, too, to get rid of all the bad things in how I live.

Help me to help others see that You're the best Friend ever!



# Today's verse for you to try and remember!



“Honour the LORD, the  
God of your ancestors,  
and do His will.”

*Ezra 10.11*

# A WORDSEARCH

*This is a Wordsearch about 'repentance' – which is about turning away from sin and trusting Jesus*

## Repentance Word Search

I P N F S Z K R L Q K O V T J D R K F E I Y Z H  
G Y O K Z G M T P T F I Z D I G S P G I R O F I  
R E W F E E L U N C O M F O R T A B L E L O G U  
G J A P W W X E R N W B M M P L W N M B C R M A  
B F S J P V H X V R G E T Y R Z W Q F Z U Q N E  
R O T E Z E Y H G Q U N A R O D Q X N U V D M V  
O R E P E N T A N C E A A D D V E A B Y Y F X K  
T G D V I J Y P I U G K L F I P R I K F J H N I  
H I M Z V N Q P Z E J S P W G A X J S V C S K D  
E V C A J A R Y X U P O I I A R F Y B B Y V F E  
R E Q Y S Y E F H Y M Z G W L T M F K Y T T A Q  
T N B H V H D F T X G H S G I Y X U W E O A T I  
Y E M K M R A D O F I X M I S T A K E Q D K H C  
D S S G K A Z M I G W L Y R Z U O V E V Y G E F  
A S T G Z O H E X B V H G I A X F O U I X P R U  
M O N E Y R R H X J X W R O N G C H O I C E R S  
S A Y S O R R Y V V C F U T K A E H G F N T T U  
I U Z N S D Z C X B Q I U J M J J L E C B Y L A  
U I L G X L E E S H C J H W U F V O O U Y C F Z  
P Z W W B T W V I W M F N D D V Y E W H L W H P  
I W L B V K A U M Y E O A R R M N G L J N K D D  
H Y Y X S S U R H G V B V M Z W Y H N X N G U J  
P E Q I Q O S N Q W A M Q I N F V T V T O P U L  
M S J Z Y H A D I O X F A I C I X S O C R N B Z

fix mistake	brother	feel uncomfortable	happy
wrong choice	say sorry	forgiveness	wasted
party	pigs	money	father
prodigal	repentance		

# .. and another one!

God sent a message through Jeremiah giving hope to His people

## Jeremiah 29:11

S P M X M V H D E V O L Y O U V T  
C M U D J J E D V U A N E E C C S  
D L R E R U T U F A Z T I Z T K C  
V O T Q Y C L R J Z Z V L S I Y B  
L F R M L M S N P R O S P E R A Q  
O C K T S N F S O A X D A C K D Q  
F E S W A I E E V O J F O R Z Q H  
P T N L Z I H H Y C F F U M D W R  
P R P I E T F N E D T D M Y V H Q  
E Y E V P F V A F P E K N W F U B  
P N I C X F A O G H A I M E R E J  
J G T A C H C J H K W S J E K S U  
R M G O Z O M R A H O R M T C E S  
H Q B B K P U C V Q N D X N S A G  
O Q W G F E S B E W K C D P H L T  
O X I S E R A L C E D W L C J N G  
Z M Q H O K A B W C K Z N T O J T

the for you give  
have Jeremiah know hope  
plans harm Lord future  
prosper declares



# For you to COLOUR IN

Try colouring in the pictures on this page and the next



*Shekariah son of Jehiel said to Ezra, “.. there is still hope for Israel” (Ezra 10.2)*



always  
have  
HOPE!

# Answers

to the puzzles on p.4

## A) The desk

- 31st June does not exist (how many days are there in the month of June?)
- There is no space bar on the laptop

## B) The 5 pictures

1. There's no river on the other side of the bridge!
2. Polar Bears live at the North Pole, penguins live at the South Pole!
3. The traffic is on the wrong side of the road!
4. The camels don't have a shadow – and that's a bright sun!
5. The wind is blowing in two different directions – look at the trees and the smoke!

**Did you get the answers all right?**

