

“We Need an Altar”

Ezra 3:1-6

Today's BIG IDEA:

God's people cannot be content with broken altars.

1. The timing was _____ (v.1a)

(Leviticus 23:26-43; Exodus 27:1-7)

2. The people were _____ (v.1b)

3. The leadership was _____ (v.2-6a)

A. They _____ to build the altar (v.2)

- *When everyone else stepped BACK, Jeshua and Zerubbabel stepped UP*

B. They were _____ not to build the altar (v.3a)

- *The consequences of disobedience to God are far greater than the consequences of disappointing our neighbors*

C. They were _____ to God's requirements for the altar (v.2-6a)

4. The rebuilding was still _____ (v.6b)

What does today's text mean for us?

1. We need people who will _____ the _____ of our time

2. We need people who will _____ for _____

3. We need people who will _____ in obedience

4. We need people who will _____ the _____ goal of Christ

(Romans 12:1-2)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. What are some “altars” that need to be rebuilt in your life? In our church? What are some specific things that you feel God is calling us to rise up and do?
2. Why is there an urgent need for Christians to seek God with all their heart?
3. Why do we hesitate to fully commit to the Lord? What excuses keep us from being obedient to what he has called us to do?