

to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4). Parents, our children are a gift from God, and should be considered and treated as such. David said, “*Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward*” (Psa. 127:3). Parents, become experts in God’s Word, and pass it along to your children!

### 3) DILIGENTLY OBEY THE VOICE OF THE LORD.

The prophet of God uttered, “*And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the LORD, and ye shall know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you. And this shall come to pass, if ye will diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God*” (Zech. 6:15). When we obey the Lord, we should quickly and passionately do it! The Hebrew writer said, “*Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him*” (Heb. 5:8-9). Have you been obedient to the Lord? If not, why not?

**4) DILIGENTLY SEEK THE LOST.** In the parable concerning a lost coin, Jesus said, “*Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it*” (Lk. 15:8). This parable is really about lost souls, not lost coins. When we are aware another soul is in jeopardy, we must urgently seek after it! James reminded, “*Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins*” (Jam. 5:19-20). Are you seeking the lost with great urgency?

**FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST** ♦ Vincennes, Indiana  
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# THE VINCENNES VOICE

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

A teaching bulletin produced and provided by  
FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

## “DILIGENTLY DONE” by Larry R. Ping II

In leading the Jewish people in the temple rebuilding, Ezra said, “*Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be diligently done for the house of the God of heaven*” (Ezra 7:23). To do something diligently is to do it “quickly and carefully with urgency and passion.” Consider these things which should be done diligently.

**1) DILIGENTLY HEARKEN TO THE VOICE OF THE LORD THY GOD.** Moses commanded, “*If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee*” (Exo. 15:26). Listening to the Lord is of utmost importance! Of His Son God said, “*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him*” (Matt. 17:5). Be very sure you are listening to God!

**2) DILIGENTLY TEACH THY CHILDREN.** God has laid upon parents a tremendous responsibility in rearing their children. The Law of Moses stated, “*And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up*” (Dte. 6:7). There are not enough passionate parents willing to impart God’s Word to their children, though this is God’s desire. Paul penned, “*And, ye fathers, provoke not your children*” (continued)

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FEBRUARY 5, 2023

## **BIBLE READING QUESTIONS**

The Bible reading for February 5-February 11 spans Ezra 4:1-Ezra 10:44. Answer the following questions based upon your reading.

- 1) What did some trouble-makers do to stunt the work of rebuilding the temple (Ezra 4:4-5)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) “But in the first year of \_\_\_\_\_ the king of Babylon the same king Cyrus made a decree to \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ of God” (Ezra 5:13).
- 3) On what day did they keep the Passover (Ezra 6:19)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4) “I make a decree, that \_\_\_\_\_ they of the people of Israel, and of his priests and Levites, in my \_\_\_\_\_, which are minded of their own \_\_\_\_\_ to go up to Jerusalem, go with thee” (Ezra 7:13).
- 5) What genealogy is listed in Ezra 8:1-14? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 6) “And when I heard this thing, I \_\_\_\_\_ my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the \_\_\_\_\_ of my head and of my beard, and sat down \_\_\_\_\_” (Ezra 9:3).
- 7) What did those who were guilty of “inter-marriage” do according to Ezra 10:19? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **READING SCHEDULE AND MEMORY VERSES FOR THE DAYS OF FEB. 5-FEB. 11, 2023.**

**February 5, 2023:** Ezra 4:1-Ezra 4:24

**February 6, 2023:** Ezra 5:1-Ezra 6:7

**February 7, 2023:** Ezra 6:8-Ezra 7:10

**February 8, 2023:** Ezra 7:11-Ezra 7:28

**February 9, 2023:** Ezra 8:1-Ezra 8:30

**February 10, 2023:** Ezra 8:31-Ezra 9:15

**February 11, 2023:** Ezra 10:1-Ezra 10:44

*“Whatsoever is commanded by the God of heaven, let it be diligently done for the house of the God of heaven...” (Ezra 7:23).*

*“Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die” (Eze. 18:4).*

### **FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Sunday Worship Services - 11:00 am & 3:00 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 pm

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