

Text: Ezra 8:1-36

Topics: Dangers, Seeking God's Help, God's Work

Series: Courage to Trust God's Promises

Monroe Bible Church

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A Successful Mission!

I. The Assembling (1-20)

The same families... legacies?

The same shortage... laxness?

The traveling group is assembled with God's help.

God's work is generally completed by teams.

You have a place on God's team & in God's work!

II. The Preparations (21-30)

The spiritual preparation... they sought God

The stewardship preparation... they selected godly men

Ezra put his faith in God for safety and godly men for stewardship.

You have God's ear when you humbly seek His help!

III. The Success (31-36)

The people are delivered safely

The offerings are delivered fully

The edicts are delivered effectively

You have God's help in His work when you humbly seek Him!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. How would you describe a successful ministry? Write a few statements.

2. What erroneous thinking by the believer is addressed in 1 Corinthians 12:21-22?

Can you think of an example of a church or person who acted out of this faulty thinking? Why might someone think and act this way?

What were, or would you expect to be, the results of acting this way?

Do you have a tendency, or preference, to try to do things alone? Why?

3. Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-13. What does King Jehoshaphat's example teach us?

4. Read 2 Chronicles 14:9-11. How was King Asa's response similar to that of Jehoshaphat?

What was the prophet Azariah's message to King Asa in 15:2? Why is the timing of the prophet's message surprising?

How did King Asa respond to the prophet's message? (See verses 8-15)

What danger did King Asa eventually succumb to in 16:7-12?

5. Write a few statements that you would put under the title, "How to be successful in a ministry".

6. What ministry has God called you to right now? How would you apply those principles?

7. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?