



In times of transition our spiritual compasses must reset back to the one who created time, defined space, and crafted life!

What is the job of an Interim Lead Pastor?

To _____ us ... with what Jesus is already doing among us!

To help _____ us ... in what we know can be done better!

To _____ us ... with the things God can YET do in and through us!

Ezra 3 describes a moment in Israel's history when the Jewish people were starting over...kind of like us here at Trinity

Two of their initial emotions for many at this moment were _____ and _____.

*v. 3 They set the altar in its place, for **fear** was on them because of the peoples of the lands, and they offered burnt offerings on it to the Lord, burnt offerings morning and evening.*

*v. 12 But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, **wept** with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid..."*

But the people refused to remain fearful and sad!

Instead, at this moment of transition, they chose to do three things! What were they? And what can we learn from them?

FIRST: They Got _____ (In Unity) 3:1

Hebrews 10:19-25 "The Let-Us Salad" of the New Testament

Notice why believers are to gather together!

We have a _____ way to approach God

We have a _____ who presents his purity to God on our behalf

These new realities invite us to three actions:

To draw near to God

To hold fast our confession of faith

To meet together without neglecting it

SECOND: They Got back to _____ (The Altar) 3:2-4

Derek Kidner (Commentary on Ezra)

"The threatening situation had brought home to them their need of help, and therefore of that access to God which was promised at the altar. 'There (at the altar) he said, I will meet with the people of Israel'." (Ex 29:43)

THIRD: They Got _____ (Powerful and varying in Perspective) 3:5-13

Notice what they did:

vv. 4-6 They followed _____ regarding the temple activities

v. 7 They _____ from the same place Solomon had obtained his - Sidon and Tyre (2 Chronicles 2)

v. 8 They _____ the same month as Solomon's temple was begun (1 Kings 6)

vv. 3:9-11 They followed _____ King David had given to his son Solomon

Haggai 2:3-5 and Zechariah 4:6

Jesus Christ - our great Cornerstone!