**Fit for the Master’s Use**

… *a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master,
prepared for every good work* (2 Tim. 2:21)

Ezra was a man God used to call Israel back to the Lord and to preserve the nation for the coming of Christ. The spiritual qualities of Ezra’s life are typically true of the men and women God uses.

**1. Ezra’s *Purpose*** (7:14, 17, 23-25)

To revitalize Israel’s *worship and life*

**2. Ezra’s *Preparation*** (7:6, 11-12)

He was skilled in the *Scriptures*

**3. Ezra’s *Plan*** (7:7; 8:1-20, 24-27)

To enlist the *help of others*

**4. Ezra’s *Practice*** (8:21-23)

*Earnest prayer*

**5. Ezra’s *Passion*** (chp. 9-10)

For *practical purity*

**For additional study or family discussion**

1. 2 Timothy 2:14-26

 How did Paul instruct Timothy to prepare himself for useful service?

 How should the Lord’s servant conduct himself?

2. What changes might be necessary for you to become more useable by the Master?

**The man God uses is the man – Oswald J. Smith**

1. Who has but one great purpose in life

2. Who by God’s grace has removed every hindrance from his life

3. Who has placed himself absolutely at God’s disposal

4. Who has learned how to prevail in prayer

5. Who is a student of the word

6. Who has a vital, living message for a lost world

7. Who is a man of Faith, who expects results

8. Who works in the Anointing of the Holy Spirit

**Amy Carmichael**

From prayer that asks that I may be

Sheltered from winds that beat on Thee,

From fearing when I should aspire,

From faltering when I should climb higher,

From all that dims Thy Calvary,

O Lamb of God, deliver me.

From subtle love of softening things

From easy choices, weakenings

(Not thus are spirits fortified,

Not this way went the Crucified)

From silken self, O Captain, free

Thy soldier who would follow Thee.

Give me the love that leads the way,

The faith that nothing can dismay,

The hope no disappointments tire,

The passion that will burn like fire –

Let me not sink to be a clod:

**Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God.**