A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study Date: February 21, 2016 Ezra 3:7-13

- 1. What happened in the previous section that we studied in last week's Bible study?
 - a. I don't remember.
 - b. The people of God gathered as one!
 - c. They rebuilt the altar and worshiped God even though there was no building yet.
 - d. They overcame their fear to worship as God had called them to.
- 2. Read the following verses: Ezra 3:7, 1 Chronicles 22:2-4, and 2 Chronicles 2:15-16 Ezra 3:8 and 2 Chronicles 3:2 Ezra 3:10-11 and 2 Chronicles 5:11–13; 7:3
 - a. What is happening in these verses in Ezra?
 - b. What do the verses in 1 & 2 Chronicles describe?
- 3. Why do you think the book of Ezra records these things in this way?
- 4. Why were the people of God celebrating, according to verse 11?
 - a. Because they were done.
 - b. Because they had taken the first step.
- 5. What happened in verse 12-13?
 - a. Everybody loved the progress that they had made in building the temple.
 - b. All of God's people were excited about what God had enabled them to do.
 - c. The people who had seen the previous temple were weeping because the foundation of the new temple did not live up to the glory of the former temple.
 - d. The weeping was as loud as the shouting and it was difficult to tell the difference.
- 6. What encouragement does the prophet Haggai later give to those who might weep over the new temple (see Haggai 2:1-9)?
 - a. He tells the people to be strong.
 - b. He assures them that he is with them.
 - c. He assures them that he will live amongst His people just as He had promised (Exodus 29:45, Leviticus 26:11)
 - d. He tells them that the glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house.
- Does the work that God is doing ever seem to fail to live up to your expectations? Yes____No____Explain.
- 8. Is it possible that God has greater glory in store even when it is difficult to see from the physical circumstances?_____