

Present

# **EZRA**

Based on the story from the Old Testament

# Sunday 16th February

St. Mary's Church, Battle - 3.0 p.m.

# Monday 17th February

United Reformed Church, Bexhill 7:45 p.m.

# Wednesday 19th February

Living Word Church, Bexhill 7:00 p.m.

# Thursday 20th February

Beulah Baptist Church 7:45 p.m.

# Saturday 22nd February

Ninfield Methodist Church Hall, Ninfield, 3:00 p.m.

# **Sunday 23rd February**

St. Peter's Community Centre, Bexhill 9:45 a.m.

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE IN AID OF BARBY KEEL ANIMAL SANCTUARY

# Ezra

Directed by

Written by

All Songs by

Prompt

Programme Design

Website

Nick Cearns

Alan Young

Dave Chamberlin

Maureen Payne

Jacqueline Young

Nigel Cox

# Singers

Natasha Chamberlin

Monique Chamberlin

Dave Chamberlin

# Musicians

Guitar

Dave Chamberlin

Drums

Ian Howell

Bass Guitar

Graham Morrow

# **EZRA**

# Lyrics

ACT 1

SONG: "TESTED"

ACT 2

SONG "STRUGGLE"

ACT 3

SONG: "SOLOMON"

ACT 4

SONG: "A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION"

ACT 5

SONG: "MORE THAN ONE WAY"

ACT 6

SONG: "INSTRUMENTAL"

ACT 7

"THE CONVERSATION"

ACT 8

## (1) TESTED

The king told Ezra all about
Jerusalem and how the doubt
was filtering into their troubled minds

He knew not what the scale of the mission was, it mattered not He'd only show devotion to the Lord

### **CHORUS**

Cause they had been tested, tested, tested by the Lord

They had been tested, tested by the Lord

Ezra was asked by the king
To witness all the suffering
How did they feel about the word of God?

God's will is hard to understand Cause something bad could happen and the reason stays within the mind of God.

#### **CHORUS**

## (2) STRUGGLE

It happens to so many, it happens to so many of us

We think we got faith

we think our faith'll last us forever

You gotta learn to take the good with the bad

You gotta learn to find meaning when you're sad

#### **CHORUS**

But we all struggle with our faith sometimes

as we move along the path of life

And we all have our own cross to bear

as we try not to live a lie

And we all struggle when it comes our

way

the testing of our faith – is it true?

Finding the strength, don't blame God

A heavenly test for you

Step back if you find yourself

Find yourself questioning your faith

Deep, deep inside

You'll find the strength to last us forever

You gotta learn to take the good with the

bad

You gotta learn to find meaning when

you're sad.

## (3) SOLOMON

Many hands make light work and equally the opposite is true Pull together like brothers You'd be surprised at what you do

### **CHORUS**

Cause Solomon was the leader
he should know what to do
but he didn't gain respect from all of his crew
He should try a little grafting
stand side by side
to the workers that make it happen

Ezra came into their lives to lift the people's spirits back up high Pray to God they will know it's real The work is God's will and that's no lie

#### **CHORUS**

## (4) A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION

It's a wonderful thing
The love of a man and a woman
It's a wonderful thing
That love can see no sides

#### **CHORUS**

In Leah and Daron

There was a difference of opinion on the Lord

There was a difference of opinion on the Lord
but He was never gonna part them

Maybe one man
could bring them even closer together
Maybe one man
could help them believe the same thing

#### **CHORUS**

It was a difficult thing for Leah's Mum and Dad to take in That in Daron's life he'd never ever let God in.

### **CHORUS**

## (5) MORE THAN ONE WAY

He opened up the mind His wisdom was divine

He showed that there was often a better way to get along

There were people all around

And he spoke out loud

You can expect a setback but never turn away from God

### **CHORUS**

There is more than one way to look at a prob-

Ezra he could show that there was more than one way to try and feel good inside

Abigail knew
there was nothing she could do
Jacob had passed and she couldn't find the
path to peace
But Ezra drew a line
showed that in God's time
Looking forward she would see her Jacob
again.

#### **CHORUS**

## (6) THE CONVERSATION

Daron has found himself an unexpected helping hand
He always knew he was working a formidable amount of land
When he wiped his brow and started another long day in the field
Well he couldn't have reckoned on Ezra or how he'd start to feel

#### **CHORUS**

There was a conversation that sowed a seed

It flowed along quite easily
Maybe Daron was going to see
He had no certain destiny

Daron had found it a shock when Ezra put out his hand Ezra had offered a handshake Daron all but turned and ran This was the start of a friendship but Aaron didn't see it come Something maybe amazing would happen out here in the sun.

#### **CHORUS**

# Cast

(in order of appearance)

**King Artaxerxes** 

Nick Cearns

Ezra

Chris King

Rachel

Meryl Beamont

**Abjgail** 

Caroline Cox

Solomon

Graham Payne

Nathan

Keith Bridger

Leah

Maria Wheeler

Daron

Alan Young

Isaac

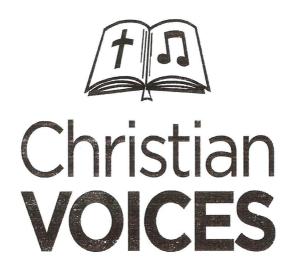
Jamie King

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The play tells of how Ezra, sent by the King to Jerusalem, tries to repair the damaged relationship its people have with God.

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The writer would like to dedicate this play to his Father who was a great inspiration by the values he held, the example he gave and his devotion to God.



The Group was formed in 2008 and this is our 11th production. We have taken our plays to 17 churches and St. Mary's school.

You can find out more about Christian Voices on our website:

www.christianvoicesbexhill.webs.com