

1. Connect

Question of the Day. Highs and Lows. Much has been changing in our world this week. Share what has changed for you this week. Is there anything you need this week?

2. LifeJournal

As we continue to move together as a church in His Word, last Sunday we were in Mt. 23:13-24. Share your SOAP application or prayer with your group. *Next week, pay special attention to Mt. 25:14-30 as we will be discussing this passage together.

3. Engage: Sermon Review + Discussion

This week, our message was from Jeremiah 29:4-14. Read the passage and dive into the questions below.

Jeremiah 29:4-14 (NIV)

⁴This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵"Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ⁶Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. ⁷Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." ⁸Yes, this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: "Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have. ⁹They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them," declares the Lord.

¹⁰This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. ¹¹*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.* ¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."

1. Take some time to re-read Jeremiah 29:4-14. Make a list of God's commands you see in this passage. What strikes you about these commands?
2. Why do you think it is important the exiles establish themselves (v.5-6) and live with God's purposes (v.7-8) in Babylon?
3. Make a list of the promises He makes to His people. What do these promises mean to you in this season?

4. What do you think God's perspective is when He calls us to seek the "welfare" and "prosperity" of the city?
5. How do you think this passage applies to us in a time such as this?
6. As so many things are changing around us, how can we in our new contexts (working from home, more time with our families, in challenging situations, etc.) seek God with all our hearts?

4. Apply: Next Faithful Step

Pastor Albert encouraged our church that God continues to be at work in the midst of everything that is going on. He encouraged us to "Live, Love, and Look".

1. In what ways can we continue to thrive as His people and to really live as God has called us to?
2. Where do you feel God can mobilize you and your community to love, contribute and really see people where they are in this time?
3. Although we may be in the midst of a very real and challenging problem, what can we do to continue to draw close to God?
4. Take some time to pray for our families, cities, country, and world.

LifeGroup Discussion Guide

Special Installment



5. Prayer

Take some time to hear prayer requests from each member of your LifeGroup. Pray for one another, for your families, communities, our church, and the world.

*If anyone needs additional pastoral support or prayers regarding this sermon or any other aspect of our series, please don't hesitate to reach out to our pastoral staff. We would love to chat more deeply and pray with you.

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