

Life Verses: Stay On Mission

Jeremiah 29:11-13

"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. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

MAIN IDEAS

- Israel had forgotten their mission Genesis 12:2-3
- God proclaims the remnant of the nation of Israel, Judah, will go into exile for their great sin 2 Kings 21:1-16
- Through His prophet, Jeremiah, God writes a letter to the exiles in Babylon Jeremiah 29:1-14

Where was the focus of the Israelite nation supposed to be according to Genesis 12:2-3? How did they fail to fulfill their mission, 1 Samuel 9:3-7?

Why were the "good" kings of Judah not enough to save the Israelites from being sent into exile?

How did the leaders know which prophet was speaking the truth of God, Jeremiah 28:1-4, 15-17?

Why does the prophecy of God seem backwards in Jeremiah 24:4-10?

Why did God send the Israelites into exile for 70 years, 2 Chronicles 36:20-21?

List the characteristics of God found in Jeremiah 29:1-14. Which ones are the easiest and hardest for you to grasp?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

How is our mission the same as the ancient Israelites? How is it different?

How are you in exile at this moment, i.e. difficult relationships, health issues, financial worries, a longing for heaven?

How can we stay on mission in a place we don't want to be, doing things we don't want to do?

Consider the Puritans: was it a fair trade-off to lose half of their group just to be stepping stones for the advancement of the gospel?

Memorize Hebrews 10:23 this week. Contemplate the character of God from Jeremiah 29 so that you may "stay on mission" in the middle of your exile.

REPRODUCE

Does anyone know about your "exile" or difficult situation? If not, reach out to a trusted Christian friend to pray with you and help you focus on God's character and promises.

Do you know of someone going through a difficult time? Reach out to them to pray or encourage them with the goodness and promises of God.

KEY VERSES

From the sermon:

- Jeremiah 29:1-14
- 2 Kings 21:10-15
- 2 Kings 23:26-27
- Jeremiah 24:4-10
- Jeremiah 26:8
- Hebrews 10:23
- Jeremiah 28:1-4
- Jeremiah 28:15-17
- Genesis 12:2-3

Additional verses from the study:

- 1 Samuel 9:3-7 2 Chr 36:20-21
- 2 Kings 21:1-16