

Dig Deeper @Home – “Biblically Incorrect”

Complement to lesson on 08/08/21 – “God Has a Wonderful Plan for Your Life”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What is your plan for the next month? What are you looking forward to? Anything you dread?
2. If you had to choose between living where it is always winter or always summer... which would you choose?

MEMORIZE – 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

READ Jeremiah 29:1-14

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read this passage? What sticks out to you?
 - a. What general observations can you make? Is anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
2. How does this passage point us to Jesus?
3. Jeremiah 29:4-7 details God’s instructions for his chosen people living as exiles in a secular society. Does this sound familiar to your life experience? Similar advice is given to Christ following spiritual exiles in 1 Peter 2:11-17. Take a minute to read this passage as well. What similarities do you see? What does God instruct his people to do, and how might this instruction translate to life in 21st Century America?
4. Jeremiah 29:11 records a promise from God “to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.” (v.4) Some pull this verse out of context and apply this promise made to a particular people, place and time universally as a promise of earthly blessing to all people. Is this a faithful reading of the text? Yes or No? (For additional study on this topic, check out this article: <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/jeremiah-2911-apply/>)
5. Depending on which Bible version you are reading, Jeremiah 29:11 discusses the “plans” or “thoughts” God has for his people. How exciting is it to think that the God of all the universe cares for you that intimately? Check out Psalm 40:1-5, where David expresses the many “thoughts towards us/plans for us” that God has, including His plan to rescue us described in verses 1-3. How does this reality make you feel? How will you respond to this love?

Experiential activity – Hindsight 20/20

Micah 6:8 is a familiar passage for many people, and Christians often quote God's call to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God." The context of this call to action is interesting, because God first reminds his people in verses 1-7 of all that he has done for them, the circumstances he has walked them through, and all that he has provided.

Sometimes, when the future looks fuzzy, or even bleak, it is easy to doubt God's "wonderful plan." But a look in the rearview mirror is able to remind us of the ways God has worked in our own personal lives, our family history, or beloved Scripture accounts.

This week, share with someone else a time when God has walked beside you that you are able to see clearly now that it is in the past. May the sharing of our testimonies build each other up and spur each other on to increased faith that God is working in the here and now... just as he has in the past!

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Leeland: Waymaker - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29lxnsqOkmQ>

Steven Moctezuma : I Have Decided to Follow Jesus - https://youtu.be/Brd6WYerW_k

Zealand Worship : Good Good Father - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eYaMNkqpnEs>

He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought - (Mennonite Hymnal #543)

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the series:

Father God, open our eyes to your truth. (Psalm 119:17-18)

Do not allow us to walk in darkness. (Isaiah 42:16)

May your Word be as a lamp to our feet, and a light to our path. (Psalm 119:105)

Guide us by your Holy Spirit to walk in the truth, bringing glory to the name of Jesus! (John 16:13-14)