

GRACE GROUP GUIDE FALL WEEK #10

November 9th, 2025 | Jeremiah 29:4-14

DISCUSSION GUIDE

1-MIN OVERVIEW

Jeremiah 29:4-14 is part of a letter from the prophet Jeremiah to exiles living in Babylon. As judgement for His people's sin, God allowed Nebuchadnezzar to conquer Judah and deport many of the Israelites to Babylon. His people believed false prophets who claimed the exile wouldn't last long, when in reality God promised 70 years. During their exile, God's people were called to build houses, plant gardens, have children, and seek the well-being of the city, for in its thriving they would thrive as well.



WARM UP

1. *As we talk about seeking the well-being of those around us, we all have things we like and perhaps don't like about our town or city. What are some things you enjoy about where you live? What are some of your favorite places to spend time?*

2. *In our Scripture, Jeremiah speaks directly to the idea that God's decided the place and circumstances of where His people dwell. What are some things about your town or city that are broken and in need of God's grace?*



KNOW IT

Read Jeremiah 29:4-14 together. Glance at the paragraphs before and after to get context. If possible, read a little more slowly and try to catch Jeremiah's main point(s). Try to imagine the original audience, taken captive and exiled from their homeland, hearing these words for the first time.

1. *This letter to the exiles happens after the siege of Jerusalem around 588 BC. God's people were defeated by the greatest nation in the world (Babylon), with many killed or forcibly relocated to Babylon. In light of this, why does Jeremiah open the letter in Jeremiah 29:4 by calling God "the LORD of Armies"?*

2. *Jeremiah 29:5-7 outlines what God calls His people to do while they are exiled in Babylon. Why are these commands perhaps not what the Israelites wanted to hear? How is building houses, planting gardens, etc. both practical and missional?*



SHARE IT

1. *Jeremiah 29:7 is perhaps the most controversial part of this chapter. What is astounding about God's commands for the exiles to seek the "well-being of the city"? How do you think they were supposed to seek this welfare for Babylon? If we're part of God's people and this Scripture can apply to us as well, how should help a mostly non-believing town or city thrive as well?*
2. *Jeremiah 29:8-9 highlights the danger of following false prophets who speak from dreams and not from God. How do we discern when a message is from God and when it's not? Why is it important the Bible take precedence over personal revelation?*



LIVE IT

1. *Jeremiah 29:10-14 is a promise given the exiles that one day they'll be restored and brought home. What is the significance of the timeline God gives to them? If life expectancy was much shorter 2500 years ago, what does this mean for the original audience? What are some ways this promise has both immediate meaning for the ancient Israelites, and eternal meaning for all of God's people?*
2. *If we have limited time in this world, how can Jeremiah 29:4-14 help us guide how we live among those who don't follow God? How does Jesus' life reflect this call to care for those who don't yet believe? How does the incarnation (birth of Jesus) affirm God's commitment to this world and influence our mission as a church?*