

Connecting with the Broader Community Through, Part Two

Live Local Series

Discussion Questions

- **What are some of your favorite places in the city (e.g., restaurants) that you would be dismayed if they left the city?**
 - Do you think people in the city would miss CCCC if CCCC left the city?
 - What would you think they would miss (or not)?
 - What part do you think the church can or should play in the community?

- **Read Jeremiah 29:1-3.**

Context: Because of their disobedience, Israel has been conquered by Babylonians; consequently, many Israelites who lived in capital of Jerusalem were taken and exiled to Babylon.

 - What stands out to you about this passage?
 - What kind of people did Babylon single out to exile? Why?
 - The biblical record tells us that the Israelite exiles originally planted themselves on the outskirts of Babylon instead of moving into the city because they feared the Babylonian strategy of the cultural assimilation of their conquered enemies. What would that mean for Israel and why did it make them fearful?

- **Read Jeremiah 29:4-9.**

Context: Because of the threat of cultural assimilation, Israel is terrified of moving into the pagan city while their “prophets” inaccurately tell them they won’t have to do that or even wait long in exile.

 - Why does God say that the prophets Israel listens to aren’t from him?
 - Read v. 10. How long will Israel be in exile?
 - What does God command them about the city of Babylon in vv. 4-7?
 - Why does God tell them to seek the welfare (or shalom) of the city?

- **Read Matthew 5:14-16**
 - How is this a New Covenant parallel to Jeremiah 29? If Israel was the focus in the Old Covenant people of God, who are the New Covenant people of God?
 - How does God call the church to live similarly today as he called Israel of old to live centuries ago?

- **Yancey said that we live local well when we let our good deeds for Jesus open doors for the good news of Jesus. What did he mean by that?**
 - How is giving and serving the one-two punch of letting our light shine before others that Jesus speaks of in Mt. 5:16?
 - How can small group engage in giving to the community in Jesus' name?
 - How can small group engage in serving the community in Jesus' name?
 - Visit <https://www.clearcreek.org/serve-local/> and see what opportunities your group (or your Go Catalyst) can explore to do
 - How do these kind of activities reinforce our gospel identity as missionaries?