

Pray For The City
Jeremiah 29:4-14
January 8, 2023

- Prayer Week 2023 - God's Glory IN The World, The City, & Your Life
- Do You Love & Pray For _____?

Are We Exiles & Sojourners?

1. The Context Of Their Exile (**Jeremiah 29 & The OT**)

- They Were _____ & _____

2. The Context Of Our Exile (**1 Peter 1:1, 2:11-12, Hebrews 13:14**)

- We Are _____ & _____

How To Live & Pray For The City While In Exile

• **How To Live While We Are In Exile— (Jeremiah 29:6-7)**

1. "Build houses and live in them":

- Build _____ — **Build Houses** — Build _____

2. "Plant gardens and eat their produce":

- Do Not Be _____ — **Be Productive & Fruitful In Your Work** — Be A _____

3. "Take wives and have sons and daughters, take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage":

- Be _____ Of Marriage & Family — **Get Married & Have Kids Who Get Married & Have Kids** — Focus _____ On Marriage & Family & _____ The City & Culture

4. "...multiply there, and do not decrease":

- _____ & _____ — **Multiply & Do Not Decrease** — _____ & _____ By
The City

• **How To Pray While We Are In Exile— (Jeremiah 29:7)**

- **שְׁלוֹם** (Shalom) - welfare, peace (**Jeremiah 29:7**)

1. _____ In The City: (Relationships, Work, Rest, Creativity, Care)

2. _____ In The City: (Governance, Crime & Gangs, Good & Righteous Laws, Economy)

3. _____ In The City: (A Praying Church, A Holy Church, A Global Church, A United Church, A Growing Church)

4. _____ In The City: (The Salvation Of The City, Young People, Older People, Internationals, The Future Heavenly City)

- Jesus Wept For The City— (**Luke 19:41-44**)
- Let's Pray For The City— (**1 Timothy 2:1-7**)

How God Works As You Pray For The City?

1. God Changes _____ (**Jeremiah 29:10-13**)

- If You Do Not Treasure God You Will Not Rightly Value The City

2. God Changes Your _____ (**Jeremiah 29:5-7**)

- If You Do Not Value Your Family, Your Family Is Less Valuable To The City
- People Are The Most Valuable _____ To The City
- People Are The Most Expensive _____ For The City

3. God Changes Your _____ (**Jeremiah 29:7**)

- If You Do Not Seek The Peace Of The City _____ _____?
- First & Foremost, We Seek The Peace Of The City By "Praying To The Lord On Its Behalf"

*"Love is not blind; that is the last thing that it is. Love is bound;
and the more it is bound the less it is blind."
— G.K. Chesterton, Orthodoxy*

Community Group Discussion Questions:

1. How do you desire to be involved this week in Prayer Week at SW Hills? How can you be praying for the city?
2. How are Christians resident aliens (or exiles and sojourners) in the cities they live (**1 Peter 2:11-12**)? How is this an important part of our identity?
3. Look at some of the instructions the prophet Jeremiah gives to the exiles in Babylon in Jeremiah 29:4-14. Currently what instructions, from this section of Scripture, do you need to hear and apply to your own life?

Suggested Reading: *5 Things to Pray for Your City: Prayers that Change Things for Your Church, Community and Culture* (Fresh, biblical ideas to help Christians pray for their city), Pete Nicholas & Helen Thorne.

Key Words For Kids To Count: Pray, Prayer