

Stepping Into A New Season Of Purpose Pt.2

Text: Jeremiah 29:5-11

"But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." Jeremiah 29:7

Situation: God often leads His people into new seasons of purpose through counterintuitive strategies that challenge human reasoning!

- Every season has a purpose, and a new season signals a SHIFT--AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH, NEW OPPORTUNITIES & IMPACT!!
- A New Season of purpose discerns a SHIFT in how God is working

Big Idea: A new season of purpose requires courage to act on God's vision even when it doesn't make sense in the moment.

Purpose refers to God's intention for your life!

To step into a new season of purpose, we must trust God's counterintuitive strategies, embrace His vision beyond our current circumstances, and act in unity to align with His redemptive plans for our lives and communities!

Counterintuitive refers to God's ways and strategies that defy human logic or natural instincts, but aligns with His higher purposes, requiring faith and obedience to achieve what seems impossible or unexpected!

Smith's translation of Isaiah 55:8-9 captures this thought: "For not my purposes your purposes and not your ways my ways, says Jehovah. As the heavens were high above the earth, so my ways were high above your ways, and my purposes above your purposes."

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." Jeremiah 29:11

REMEMBER: GOD'S WORD IS NOT SILENT NOR DORMANT, BUT ACTIVE IN THIS SEASON!!

(1) Spiritual Discernment: Recognizing God's Purpose in the Present Season

Jeremiah 29:5-7 commands the exiles to *build houses, plant gardens, and seek the prosperity of the city where they are.*

- Instead of waiting passively for change, they were called to **discern God's purpose in their current circumstances** and engage fully in the season they were in.

Application: When we face transitions, discernment helps us recognize that **where we are is not an accident**—God is working, even in difficult places.

2. Prayerful Reflection: Seeking God’s Direction and Assurance

Jeremiah 29:12-13 emphasizes the role of **prayer in understanding God’s purpose:**
“Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.”

Application: Prayer aligns our hearts with God’s will and gives us the clarity needed to take steps of faith.

J. Edwin Orr: “Whenever God is ready to do something new with His people, He first sets them to prayer!”

3. Sensitivity to God’s Movement: Trusting His Timing and Process

- **Jeremiah 29:10-11** reveals that **God’s timing and process are intentional**, even when they don’t align with human expectations.

Mac Pier states, “Prayer prepares us to see the invisible even before the answers become visible as God ministers to us foretastes of things to come!”

- The exiles had to wait 70 years before returning home, yet God assured them: *“For I know the plans I have for you... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope.”*

Application: Sensitivity to God’s movement helps us trust that His plans are unfolding—even when we don’t see immediate results.
