

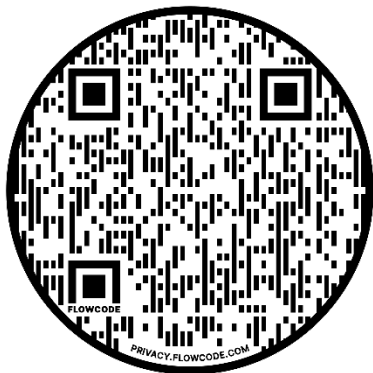
Application in Community

Welcome: Praise the LORD that you joined us for worship. You are welcome here and we invite for you to join our community. We have several types of small groups that meet during the week. For information, head to the Information Center and our Connections Director, Tia Hanson will help you learn how to get involved at Grace.

Application Questions:

- Everyone, go around the circle: 1) state your job; and 2) one hobby you like to do and why.
- Read Jeremiah 29:1-3, look at all the skills and kinds of people the LORD brought into exile in Babylon. Do your best to define these different skills (especially vv. 1-2) and relate any of them to your skills.
- Now, read vv. 4-7 and brainstorm about how you could use your skills, passions, job, or abilities to seek for the welfare of the city.
- What next? Any ideas of how to apply the above?
- Perhaps prayer *together* is what is needed? (vv. 10-14)

Wondering where the **Bulletin** is:



Living in Exile

Jeremiah 29:1-14

*Jeremiah 29:1 These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet...
3 The letter was sent...to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. It said:*

4 "Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5 Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. 6 Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. 7 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. 8 For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, 9 for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the LORD.

10 "For thus says the LORD: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfil to you my promise and bring you back to this place. 11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. 13 You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

BI: [GOD](#) brought you here with all your skills and gifts, therefore...

- LIVE here: [settle down and engage, don't withdraw and separate.](#)
- SERVE here: [don't assimilate the values of the city but seek its welfare.](#)
- PRAY: [seek the LORD and His will as you yearn for return from exile.](#)