

Walking On In Exile

Warming Up

1. Do you think exiles are in God's plan for His children?
2. Do you think being in exiles can be beneficial?

Into the Passage

Read Jeremiah 29:1-14

3. Who were the recipients of this letter? When was this letter sent to them?
4. The people had probably lost hope in living when they were in the exile. But what was the instruction of the Lord to them?
5. How had the people possibly responded to God's instruction when they received this letter? How did Jeremiah confirm His instruction in v8?
6. Why do you think God warned His people against the false prophets who prophesized the ending of suffering in v 8 - 9 (Jer 28:1 - 17, 14:13 - 18, 23:9 - 40).
7. What was God's gracious promise to the people in exile?

Moving Forward

People may feel restless and purposeless when in exile. We would think that God has forgotten His people. But in times of deep trouble, God's perspective on the situation is entirely different from ours.

8. Read verse 12 - 14. Actions of God: listen, bring, gather, banish, carry etc. How did His actions show us about His characters?
9. How does knowing about God's characters change our attitude towards being in exile?
10. What do you think is God's ultimate purpose for putting us in exile?

Life Together

11. How has being in exile affected your journey with God? Share.
12. Discuss about the lessons that God has taught us in exile

Walking On In Exile - Some Leader's Notes

These notes are primarily for the Into the Passage portion, and are to be used just as guidelines or commentary notes. Most of them are my own thoughts, so take that with a grain of salt. Let the Word of God lead you to truth, not these notes. Don't place too much focus on them, and let the Bible study discussion lead primarily from the passage itself.

Into the Passage

Read Jeremiah 29:1-14

3. Who were the recipients of this letter? When was this letter sent to them?

The letter was written to those in exile, letting them know that God has not forgotten to them. However, the contents of the letter would also be known in Judah, letting them know of the impending judgements but God's faithfulness as well.

4. The people had probably lost hope in living when they were in the exile. But what was the instruction of the Lord to them?

The letter says to work hard, and expect to be there for a long time. But that God will bring them home as well. His plans for them in exile is to have welfare, future and hope.

5. How had the people possibly responded to God's instruction when they received this letter? How did Jeremiah confirm His instruction in v8?

They probably started trying to figure out when they would return, or try and find out the future.

6. Why do you think God warned His people against the false prophets who prophesized the ending of suffering in v 8 – 9 (Jer 28:1 – 17, 14:13 – 18, 23:9 – 40).

God wanted them to learn to trust him, and understand that there is a purpose in where they were at. They were also in the process of learning how to know God away from their temples and their traditions.

7. What was God's gracious promise to the people in exile?

That God will hear your prayers and restore them, and will bring them back to their home.