

THE PLANS GOD HAS FOR YOU

29:11



WEEK #1: GOD'S PLANS FOR YOU.

INTRODUCTION

"For I know that plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some dreams, ambitions, and plans you have (or have had) for your life? How many of them have happened the way you imagined they would? Has anything been different than you expected? Better? Worse?
2. At What point in your life did you realize that *your* plans for God wouldn't materialize? Have you experienced a disappointment that became hardwired, and how did those disappointments impact your faith and your view of God?
3. Fact #1: God is all-powerful, he loves you, and he has an awesome plan for your life. Fact #2: Bad stuff is going to happen. How do you resolve the tension between these two truths?
4. Read Jeremiah 29:11. What do you think about this Scripture? How have you thought about this verse up until this point, and how it pertains to you?
5. The word "*know*" in Jeremiah 29:11 means to "*know by seeing.*" The word "*plans*" or "*thoughts*" comes from the word *machinations* which means to know how the pieces fit together. Do the meaning of these two words in this Scripture impact your understanding of its truth? If so, how?
6. Do you find it challenging to stay with God when He doesn't seem to make any sense? Can you think about a specific moment or circumstance in your life when you trusted God, even though it didn't make sense to those around you?
7. Read Isaiah 55:8-9. What do you think about this verse? Does it help you deal with the struggle with resolving the fact that God loves us and bad things happen?
8. What was your biggest takeaway from the message, and why?

SCRIPTURE & QUOTES

Jeremiah 18:11-12, 21:8-10, 29:4-7, 11 / Isaiah 55:8-9 / Psalm 138:8.

"It's different when you know something by seeing. God is saying, I've seen your future, and you can afford to get on with living."

"It may be that you're in Babylon today, but God is at work putting pieces together."