

Sermon Discussion Guide

Nov. 9 & 10, 2024 "Catch God's Clear Vision for a 21st Century Church" Jeremiah 29:11-13

During the month of November, we'll be having a giving campaign called Building Hope for Tomorrow. We believe God is calling Hope to position ourselves for future generations. Over the next few weeks, we'll be talking a lot about this vision. Be praying about what God wants to do through you to reach out to the world around us!

PRAY & CONNECT

Open in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation. Ask God for wisdom and discernment and trust him to guide you. Take time to recap the message or view it on HopeOnline.tv. Did you have any "ah-ha" moments where you felt convicted, compelled or inspired during the sermon? What's been on your mind this week? Have you been able to apply the message to your everyday life?

GROW

Read <u>1 Peter 2:9</u> – "A Living Stone and a Chosen People"

- Peter describes believers as a "chosen people" and "royal priesthood." What does this identity mean to you personally, and how does it inspire you to live out your faith in daily life? Reflecting on being God's "royal priesthood," what unique gifts or passions do you feel God has given you to serve others? How can your small group help each other recognize and use these gifts within the church and in the community?
- Pastor Mike talked about our mission to declare God's goodness. What are some ways your small group can support one another in being a light to the community?

Read Jeremiah 29:11-13 – "A Letter to the Exiles"

- God promises a future filled with hope and purpose. Where do you feel God calling you to trust him more deeply with your own dreams and plans? When you think about God's "plans to give you hope and a future," what dreams or fears do you sense God asking you to surrender to him?
- Discuss practical ways your group can participate in supporting the campaign, whether through raising awareness, volunteering or finding ways to contribute financially. How might this campaign align with God's plans for reaching the community? How can your small group join in prayer for the campaign and the vision to impact others beyond the church?

Read Mark 8:36 - "The Way of the Cross"

• Jesus asks what good it is to gain the world but lose our souls — how does this challenge you to re-evaluate your own goals and priorities? In what areas of your life do you find it challenging to let go of worldly goals? How might your small group provide accountability and encouragement in shifting your focus to pursue God's eternal purposes instead?

Read <u>Romans 5:3-4</u> - "Peace and Hope"

• Paul reminds us that perseverance produces character and hope. How has God used challenges in your life to deepen your faith and build character? What does it look like for your group to walk alongside one another through difficult seasons, growing together in faith and hope?

APPLY

This week, pray for the Building Hope for Tomorrow campaign and its potential to impact the community. Reflect on practical ways you can join the vision — whether by committing to prayer, contributing time or resources, or finding ways to reach out to people in need. Consider how this vision can bring hope to others, and encourage one another to take a step of faith, trusting that God will use each contribution to expand his kingdom and bring light to the world.

