



I Know You!
Jeremiah 29:11-14

There Is a Message to Our Graduates and Their Families and Friends Here!

- The Nation of Israel had been captured by the Babylonian Empire and King Nebuchadnezzar
- Many of them had been removed from their homeland and taken into captivity
- There were some prophets in Israel who had proclaimed that God would soon take control of the Babylonians and quickly give Israel the freedom to come home (Jeremiah 29:8-9)
- Jeremiah was NOT one of those prophets!

- Jeremiah had predicted the fall of Jerusalem and their ultimate captivity
- But he also told them that God would ***NOT*** rescue them at this time
- God lets the Israelites know that anyone who prophesied otherwise was not ***HIS PROPHET***
- He lets them know that they would remain captives of the Babylonians for 70 years (verse 10), then God would bring the nation out of their captivity

But God Now Assures Them In Their Sacrificial Years!

“.....For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Then you will call on me and come to pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.....

Jeremiah 29:11-13

...I will be found by you,” declares the Lord....

- God is basically saying that He knows that He is asking them to make a sacrifice, for a while,

But He Has A Plan For Them

“I know the plans I have for you”

*“..plans to prosper you (not break you)
and not to harm you..”*

**God Gives Them Hope and
Encouragement Even Though They
Would Live In a Foreign Land!**

What Is The Message For Our Graduates and Their Families From God?

Are We There Yet?



These are the infamous words we hear from the back seat of the car on a long car ride!

Think About That Question From Your Child's Viewpoint!

- Did you sit down and discuss with them your planned route or estimated road time?
- Did you tell them if or where you intended to stop along the way?
- Does their question cause you to stop on the highway and pull out a map and explain yourself?

WHY?

- For the most part, they wouldn't understand and you figure the details would not interest them anyway (besides you are the PARENT)



“Are We There Yet”

- The question from the backseat is not about the details, ***IT’S ABOUT THE WAITING!***
- Waiting for a child can be ***agonizing and brutal, so they may ask their parents over and over and over again many times***
- The children of Israel were in the back seat (so to speak)
- They cried out to the Lord and many False prophets said what the people wanted to hear but one particular prophet spoke the Word of the Lord!



“Are We There Yet”

- Usually when this question is raised in the back seat, it is not a question of doubting a parent’s competence
It’s a Question of Needing Assurance!
- Children generally know that when their parents are driving, they will get to their destination (Trust)
- The Israelites were in the same situation, they did not want to wait, but they needed assurance that **THEIR FATHER HAD A PLAN FOR THEM AND HE WAS GOING TO BE FAITHFUL TO THEM AS HE HAD BEEN BEFORE**
- Graduates in Christ, you will need a blessed assurance at some point in your journey (Matthew 11:2-5)
Confirmation is Assurance!

Graduates God Has a Plan For You!

- God had a plan for his people then and he does now
- God told them to build homes in captivity and to settle in and they would be their for 70 years , Jeremiah 29:5
- He also told them that He had a plan for them after the 70 years was over
- His plans are not our plans (we aren't privy to all of it)
Isaiah 55:8-9
- His plans are specific for each child, knowing each of us is different, like each child in your family is (ex David)
- He knows the future and we don't, so it's a matter of trusting in God's plan for our lives

#1 God Has an Ear For You!

“Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you.”

- Here, God tells His people that even while they faced the difficulties of exile in a foreign country, he would listen to their complaints
- Graduates, after having achieved your present goals there will be new worlds to conquer (Where do I go from graduation? Will I be successful?, Will I need a do-over? Where will I end up, in my journey with Jesus?)

Remember, Hebrews 4:15-16

#2 God Has Time for You

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you says the Lord...”

- Remember at this time the nation of Israel was in pain, shock, but also being exiled because of their own disobedience
- God, however, is saying because “you seek me with all your heart” I will be there for you

Christians Remember:

***God Doesn't
Like To Be
“Janked”***

Urban Dictionary: Disrespected

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38