



### **Look Back**

- Group check in...for fun, go around the room and everyone share what their first vehicle was!
- Last week, we talked about shepherding/leading. What steps did you take this past week to lead/shepherd those around you? How did that turn out?
- We also talked about the concept of “replacing yourself”, or put another way raising up those around you teaching and modeling for them to lead/shepherd others. How did this look this past week in your life? Did you identify anyone you can do this with? If so, would they be a good person to invite to Small Group?

### **Look Up**

This weeks passage is challenging from a few different vantage points. Not only because God tells his people to **seek** the welfare (lit. *Shalom*) of the city and to **pray** for them but also because God **sent** them into exile (v.4).

What do we do with that? A God who **sends** his people into exile. Did he do it for his people or for their captors? Did he do it for himself?

Additionally, God’s pretty clear that this exile is not a short one - even though many false prophets have said it would be (28:3-4). As you read today’s passage, think through our situation(s), realizing that the NT calls you and I “exiles” (1Peter 1:1, 1Peter 2:11, Phil. 3:20)

### **Read Jeremiah 29:1-14**

- What do you learn about God?
- What do you learn about people and yourself?
- What do you find difficult or challenging?

### **Look Forward**

- What do you think “living as an exile” means in today’s age and in our culture? Do you live like this now? Do you feel there are any areas of your life God has **sent** you to exile?
- In what areas of your life do you need to **seek** the welfare (*Shalom*) of the places God has you right now? Do you currently do that? What adjustments can you make this week to move toward this?
- *Shalom* is greater than just peace...it’s balanced living. Do you feel that anything in your life is out of balance right now? If so, what steps can be taken to help move toward balance in this area(s)?
- How can we as a group help one another in this things? Is accountability needed or help in some other way?

Spend some time **praying** for one another - that we would be agents of “*Shalom*” in our lives.