



## Key References:

### **Jeremiah 29:7 (NLT)**

<sup>7</sup> And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare.”

### **1 Peter 1:3-4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading ...

### **1 Peter 1:14-16 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup> As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, <sup>15</sup> but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, <sup>16</sup> since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

### **Colossians 3:1-4 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup> Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. <sup>2</sup> Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. <sup>3</sup> For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

### **1 Peter 2:11-12 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

## **STRANGERS AND EXILES ...**

Have you ever felt like an outsider in your life? (perhaps it was on a sports team, due to your faith, in school, or at a new job, etc) **Share about your experience and how you felt at the time.**

The Bible talks a lot about the people of God living as exiles; living in a culture that finds importance and gives priority to things that are not what we uphold as followers of Christ. Read Jeremiah 29:7. **How does this verse call us to respond? What are the implications if we do it?**

In last weekend’s sermon, Andy gave us three ways exiles should live ...

### **1 – A LIVING HOPE**

Andy said, “Thankfulness in our lives breeds hope and joy.” **Do you agree or disagree with this? Why?**

Read 1 Peter 1:1-7. **What do you most often find yourself putting your hope in (other than Christ)? Based on the verse 3 & 4, how is putting your hope in Christ a better choice?**

### **2 – A BETTER ATTENTION**

Read 1 Peter 1:14-16. Our world is full of objects and opportunities that attract our attention and captivate our passions. **How do you look beyond the ‘things’ and the ‘messages’ that are constantly vying for your attention?**

Read Colossians 3:1-4. Andy said, “When I rest in God, I become sober-minded on the things he wants us to be mindful of.” **What steps could you take in your daily routine to find a better attention for your soul?**

### **3 – ADJUSTING OUR LIFESTYLE**

Read 1 Peter 2:11-12. What does it mean to be “honourable” in our conduct? What does it mean for you to abstain from the things that, “wage war against your soul”?

Andy suggested that the exile life is easier when we are in community and that we might consider going for a (prayer) walk with someone in the church this week (still allowed under current restrictions). **Who could you go walking with and prayer for? Plan to contact them.**