

<u>Generous with our City</u> (Jeremiah 29:1-20) – November 13-14, 2021 Tim Howey

Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon: **Jeremiah 29:4 NKJV**

Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit. Jeremiah 29:5 NKJV

Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters—that you may be increased there, and not diminished. **Jeremiah 29:6 NKJV**

And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace. **Jeremiah 29:7 NKJV**

For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed. **Jeremiah 29:8 NKJV**

For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says the Lord. Jeremiah 29:9 NKJV

For thus says the Lord: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. **Jeremiah 29:10 NKJV**

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. **Jeremiah 29:11 NKJV**

therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king who sits on the throne of David, concerning all the people who dwell in this city, and concerning your brethren who have not gone out with you into captivity— **Jeremiah 29:16 NKJV**

And I will pursue them with the sword, with famine, and with pestilence; and I will deliver them to trouble among all the kingdoms of the earth—to be a curse, an astonishment, a hissing, and a reproach among all the nations where I have driven them, **Jeremiah 29:18 NKJV**

because they have not heeded My words, says the Lord, which I sent to them by My servants the prophets, rising up early and sending them; neither would you heed, says the Lord. **Jeremiah 29:19 NKJV**

And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace. **Jeremiah 29:7 NKJV**

See our city through Jesus' eyes

Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! John 4:35 NKJV

And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and <u>pray to the Lord for it;</u> for in its peace you will have peace. **Jeremiah 29:7 NKJV**

Pray for our city as Jesus does

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, 1 Timothy 2:1 NKJV

for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

1 Timothy 2:2 NKJV

who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:4 NKJV

And <u>seek the peace of the city</u> where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace. **Jeremiah 29:7 NKJV**

Serve our city with Jesus' light

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:16 NKJV**

Church-wide Serve Day, Sunday 11/21 @ 9:30 AM - <u>visitgracechurch.com/serveday</u> Other Outreach Opportunities - <u>visitgracechurch.com/outreach</u>

Local Outreach Serving Opportunities -- visitgracechurch.com/outreach

Note: Reach out to our event contact before attending because our outreach partners might have adjusted their plans

1. Church Under the Bridge -- worshipwagon.org

- Attend a worship service under a bridge with the homeless in our urban core
 - o 2nd Mondays at 5:30p (click here)
 - 4th Mondays at 6:00p (click here)

2. Freedom Fire Urban Outreach -- freedomfire.org

- Help reach kids in our urban core by bringing a <u>meal</u>, doing a <u>skit</u>, giving a <u>testimony</u>, or just <u>playing</u> along with all the kids
 - 4th Fridays at 6p (click here)

3. Grace Foster & Adoption -- Email outreach@visitgracechurch.com

• Volunteer to support children and families through <u>foster care</u>, weekend <u>respite care</u>, or <u>adoption</u> (<u>click</u> here)

4. The Hope Center -- hopecenterkc.org

- Help provide a meal for 60 students being developed in our urban core
 - Wednesdays at 3:30p (<u>click here</u>)

5. Hope for Ishmael -- hopeforishmael.org

- Pray for Muslims around the world to receive Jesus (click here)
- <u>Learn</u> to reach your Muslim neighbors through the *Lead with Love* course
 - 8-week course (click here)

6. Hope is Alive -- hopeisalive.net/homes/kchome

- Volunteer to drive for drug addicts and alcoholics in recovery (click here)
- Volunteer to <u>mentor</u> or <u>teach life skills</u> to drug addicts and alcoholics in recovery (<u>click here</u>)
- Provide a sunday night <u>meal</u> (<u>click here</u>)
- Volunteer to serve in the office or clean the facility for clients (click here)
- Contact outreach@visitgracechurch.com to learn more about how you can serve

7. Mission Southside -- missionsouthside.org

- Help distribute <u>food</u> at Antioch Crossing Apartments
 - One Friday a month at 3:30p (click here)
- Help distribute <u>food</u> at Harrison Square Apartments
 - 1st and 3rd Fridays at 4:30p (<u>click here</u>)

8. PastorServe -- pastorserve.net

Pray 1-2 hours a month for pastors around the country (email kristina@pastorserve.org)

9. Resource Health -- resourcehealthpartners.org

- Volunteer to <u>mentor</u>, <u>educate</u>, or <u>advocate</u> for women and men experiencing an unplanned pregnancy (<u>click here</u>)
- Help <u>clean</u> to provide a hospitable, sanitary and safe center for clients (<u>click here</u>)

10. Shelter KC -- shelterkc.org

- Serve with upcoming <u>Thanksgiving</u> or <u>Christmas</u> events (<u>click here</u>)
- Help <u>clean</u> the men's overnight homeless shelter
 - o 2nd Saturdays at 9:30a (click here)

11. SOAR Special Needs -- soarspecialneeds.org

- Volunteer to <u>serve</u> individuals with special needs and their families at a SOARly Needed Respite Night (<u>click here</u>)
- Volunteer with bookkeeping, graphic design, carpentry, costume creation, etc. (click here)

Driving Tour -- *Dividing Lines: A History of Segregation in Kansas City*

- 90-minute tour
- Safely drive through the city at your own pace while hearing stories
- Journey through the history of segregation in the Kansas City metro, primarily through its real estate

NURSERY

WE THANK GOD

DAVID THANKS GOD THROUGH SONG



In this short two week series we will be learning about how David sang songs of thanksgiving to God. We will learn that we are never too young to start worshiping God. We will learn to thank God for the things and people that he has given us as well as for sending Jesus to be our forever friend.

Memory Verse: "We thank God." Psalm 107:1 (adapted for toddlers)

Heart of the Lesson: We thank God in many ways.

Parent Engagement: One way to worship God is by singing and/or playing instruments like David did in today's story. As a family, turn on some worship songs and sing together as a family. For our younger kids we recommend an artist named Yancy. She's one of our favorites in Grace Kids. Check out the <u>Grace Kids Playlist!</u>

GKJR

OBEY GOD EVEN WHEN IT'S HARD

DANIEL, ESTHER, SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO.



Sometimes God asks us to do hard things. In this series we will learn three stories about people in the Bible that did really really hard things for God.

Memory Verse: Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a NLT

Heart of the Lesson: Daniel's Friends Obey God Even When It's Hard - Daniel 3

Parent Engagement: Have your kids tell you about the story today using the craft. How did Daniel's friends obey God when it was hard? Talk about when it is hard to obey in your family's life. How can this story encourage you?

ELEMENTARY

INTERRUPTED

As we come into the final stretch of our All In campaign, we look at another side of being All In; how do we spend our time? We will dive into 3 different places where we can be generous with our time: allowing for interruptions, serving our Church and serving our Community. Our challenge to our kids will be to Pray, Listen, and Obey what God tells them when it comes to their time.

Memory Verse: For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many. - Mark 10:45

Heart of the Lesson: Generous with our City - Jeremiah 29:1-20

Parent Engagement: Fill and turn in your Operation Christmas Child boxes if you haven't this week.

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YOU ASKED FOR IT!

ANSWERING HARD QUESTIONS



Throughout this 3-week series, we will be answering tough questions that the 5th and 6th graders have asked. The students will engage in small group conversations to discover what the Bible says about their question, and then discuss with the whole group what they found out!

Memory Verse: Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8

Heart of the Lesson: Who made the church and how? - Matthew 16:18, Acts 2

Parent Engagement: Write a card to invite a friend to church! Discuss as a family, why did God establish the church?