

Our Faithful Pursuit: Mission & Multiplication | Jeremiah 29:1-9

These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders of the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. This was after King Jeconiah and the queen mother, the eunuchs, the officials of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen, and the metal workers had departed from Jerusalem. The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan and Gemariah the son of Hilkiah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. It said: "Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the Lord. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to them dreams that they dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the Lord."

The Mission of the Church

1. To make disciples

- "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Faithful, Present, and Multiplication

1. Invest in the next generation;

2. Invest in relationships;

- "So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but our own selves, because you had become very dear to us." (1 Thessalonians 2:8)

3. Demonstrate hospitality;

- "Show hospitality to one another without grumbling." (1 Peter 4:9)

4. Disciple people where you are;

- "Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves." (Luke 10:3)

5. Proclaim the gospel;

- And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15)

6. Grow in discernment

7. Prayer

To Know Jesus and Make Him Known

1. The Great Commission;

2. The glory of God

- "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!" (Psalm 115:1)