

One BRMC Small Group Study

Seek the Welfare of the City

Participant's Copy

Please note that this study guide accompanies the OneBRMC sermon on 9 Aug 2020.

Scripture Passage:
Jeremiah 29:4-7

Context:

Today's scripture passage is part of a message that the prophet Jeremiah was relaying to the Israelites who were at that time living in exile in Babylon. In it, God advises them to seek the welfare of Babylon, the city that they are living in.

In the perspective of eternity, this world is not our true home, and one day we will be reunited physically with the Lord. But this world is our *current* home. For as long as we are here on earth, God calls us to seek the welfare of the city, this place we live in, for our benefit, as well as for others' benefit.

Introductory

1. In today's passage (Jeremiah 29:4-7), what was the advice given to the Israelites living in exile in Babylon? Why did Jeremiah say those things?

Reflection

2. In his sermon, Rev. Dr. Daniel Koh referenced H. Richard Niebuhr's book, "Christ and Culture", which offers 5 typologies that illustrate how Christians might view engagements with the wider society. Which type do you lean more towards, and why?
3. What are your thoughts and views towards Singapore and the people who live within it? Are you able to pray for and seek the good of Singapore and the people who live within it?

Application

4. What are ways in which Christians can contribute positively to the well-being of the wider society? Share examples that you know of.

5. How can you start finding ways to look out for the well-being of people in our city?

Prayer

6. Write out a prayer for yourself based on what you have heard and learned from this session.

(a) What is in your heart for yourself?

- Perhaps you need God's help to find ways to contribute to your society

"Almighty Father, teach me what I can do to help others in this country. Give me the heart to love those around me, that I may be able to be a blessing to them. Help me to be a channel of Your love, peace and joy to those around me. In Jesus' name, Amen."

(b) What is in your heart for others?

- Perhaps you feel led to pray for this country:

Suggested prayer pointers:

- Pray for its leaders
 - Pray for its peace and safety
 - Pray for its prosperity
 - Pray for the church within, that it will be the salt and light to the nation
- It is always useful to collate these prayers and to refer to them for thanksgiving and sharing next week.