

Jeremiah 29:4-7
Blue Bible, pg 833

ENGAGE WITH GOD

A VISION FOR THE CITY

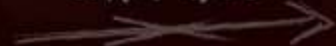
**Currently living in a city or town you are
not originally from?**

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Jeremiah 29:4-7 (ESV)

⁴ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons



Jeremiah 29:4-7 (ESV)

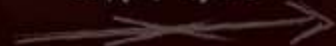
and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the



Jeremiah 29:4-7 (ESV)

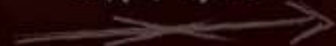
*city where I have sent you into exile,
and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for
in its welfare you will find your welfare.*

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1. Put down roots in the city (v. 5-6)

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Galatians 3:29 (ESV)

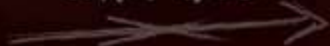
“And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.”

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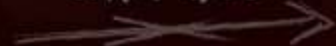
2. Pray for the city (v. 7b)

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.



Psalm 137:1-4 (ESV)

¹ By the waters of Babylon, there we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. ² On the willows there we hung up our lyres. ³ For there our captors required of us songs, and our tormentors, mirth, saying, “Sing us one



Psalm 137:1-4 (ESV)

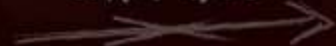
*of the songs of Zion!”⁴ How shall we
sing the LORD’s song in a foreign land?*

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Psalm 137:8-9 (ESV)

⁸ O daughter of Babylon, doomed to be destroyed, blessed shall he be who repays you with what you have done to us! ⁹ Blessed shall he be who takes your little ones and dashes them against the rock!



Jeremiah 29:7b (ESV)

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.



A Church Focused on Itself	A Church Focused on Its City
Prayer inside the church	Prayer on location in the community (neighborhoods, schools, etc.)
Prayer for our people	Prayer for those outside our church (city officials, human services agency leaders, teachers, etc.)
Prayer for myself (my happiness, security, health, etc.)	Prayer for people in need
Prayer for God to change “them”	Prayer for God to change “me”
Prayer for the lost	Prayer for and engagement with three people who don't know Jesus
Prayer for church finances	Prayer for money to be freed up to help others
Prayer for people to come to church	Prayer for people to be sent out from our church
Prayer for the success of our church	Prayer for expansion of God's Kingdom
People who pray	People of prayer

[Eric Swanson and Rick Rusaw, *The Externally Focused Quest – Becoming the Best Church FOR the Community*, page 188]

3. Seek the welfare of the city (v. 7a)

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.



Matthew 9:35 (ESV)

“And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction.”

