

# BELPRES CHURCH

## Sermon Title: Ganas

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### Scripture: Jeremiah 29:4-11

<sup>4</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon

<sup>5</sup> “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce.

<sup>6</sup> Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.

<sup>7</sup> Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

<sup>8</sup> Yes, this is what the LORD Almighty, the God of Israel, says: “Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have.

<sup>9</sup> They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them,” declares the LORD.

<sup>10</sup> This is what the LORD says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place.

<sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

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### Discussion Questions:

Read Jeremiah 29:1-23 and answer the below questions with your friends, family or All In small group.

### Ice Breaker Question:

- If you could give a piece of advice to your younger self, what would it be?

### Opening Questions:

- Looking back, were you able to apply any of the things we talked about last time to your life this week? What did you do? How did it go?

### Scripture Reflection Questions -- Read Jeremiah 29:1-23 together and discuss the following:

- What do we learn about God (e.g., traits, personality, what matters, priorities) in this passage and sermon?
- What do we learn about people, and ourselves in particular, this week?

### Sermon Reflection Questions – Reflecting on this week’s sermon, discuss the following

- Through the letter of Jeremiah, what did God ask the Israelites to do? Then they were to seek the welfare of the community, how can we seek the welfare of the community God has sent us?
- Jeremiah had to have an intimate relationship with God to continue the mission. We too need an intimate relationship with God and mentioned in the sermon was fasting and prayer to nurture that relationship. If you have practiced fasting from food in order to pray and get closer to God, what did you learn or experience? If you haven't tried fasting with prayer, what might cause you to try it?

**Closing Question and Application:**

- Given what we've discussed together today, how might God want you apply these learnings to your life or in the life of your community this next week? Who might you share this with?

**Closing group prayer:** Spend a few minutes together in your group sharing prayer requests and then praying together for each other. Thank God for the time together, the conversation shared, the other people in the group, and for encouragement in the week ahead.