

**Why Exile?**  
**Jeremiah 29:11**

**Our world has changed and so has the church**

Morality: What used to be wrong is not right  
Violence: Terrorism, guns, and hatred rule.  
Attendance: No one seems to know what to do.  
Relevance: Nothing really makes any difference.  
Fear: The future just doesn't seem good.

**A lesson from Israel's History**

Exodus: Rescue from Egyptian slavery: God's deliverance  
Conquest: Possessing the land: God's provisions  
Sovereignty: David and Solomon: God's blessings  
Decline: Division and moral decay: God's warnings  
Exile: Defeat and Babylonian exile: God's faithfulness

**Losses experienced in exile:**

Loss of the glory days  
Loss of what the familiar  
Loss of moral clarity  
Loss of optimism  
Loss of children

**Alternatives for living in exile**

Reclaim the kingdom: exercise in futility  
Withdraw from society: turn inward  
Assimilate into the culture: lose identity  
Engage from the margins: Be the people of God

**What are the tasks of exile?**

Lament: Grieve loss and change  
Repent: Give up idolatry  
Consecrate: Sacrifice self  
Be holy: Become like Jesus  
Be faithful: Love as Jesus did

**Lesson number one for the Christian in exile:**

I cannot do this alone, I need my church

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\_\_\_\_\_: Terrorism, guns, and hatred rule.  
\_\_\_\_\_: No one seems to know what to do.  
\_\_\_\_\_: Nothing really makes any difference.  
\_\_\_\_\_: The future just doesn't seem good.

**A lesson from Israel's History**

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**Losses experienced in exile:**

Loss of the \_\_\_\_\_  
Loss of what the \_\_\_\_\_  
Loss of \_\_\_\_\_  
Loss of \_\_\_\_\_  
Loss of \_\_\_\_\_

**Alternatives for living in exile**

\_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom: exercise in futility  
\_\_\_\_\_ from society: turn inward  
\_\_\_\_\_ into the culture: lose identity  
\_\_\_\_\_ from the margins: Be the people of God

**What are the tasks of exile?**

\_\_\_\_\_: Grieve loss and change  
\_\_\_\_\_: Give up idolatry  
\_\_\_\_\_: Sacrifice self  
\_\_\_\_\_: Become like Jesus  
\_\_\_\_\_: Love as Jesus did

**Lesson number one for the Christian in exile:**

I cannot do this \_\_\_\_\_, I need my \_\_\_\_\_

10 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. 11 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. 12 Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."