

HOPE
OUR *Hope*
& *Future*
FUTURE



study number one



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HOPE OUR *Hope* & *Future* FUTURE



study number one

A Study of Jeremiah 29:11-12

*“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. Then you will call upon me and come
and pray to me, and I will listen to you.”*

Lesson One - God’s Plans

Lesson Two - Prosperity and Protection

Lesson Three - Hope and a Future

Lesson Four - Call Upon the Name of the Lord

Note: Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV), unless otherwise noted.

Lesson One

God's Plans

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD (Jeremiah 29:11a).

Making plans takes up a sizeable portion of our time, doesn't it? We make plans to travel, attend performances or shows, outline ministry goals, take family vacations, outline career strategies, and on and on.

Each time we enter a new year, the lure of planning every aspect of our lives is tempting. Plans to eat right, exercise more often, stick to a financial budget, engage in more family activities, spend daily time in God's Word, devote time to regular prayer, and so much more.

Making plans is not a bad thing. In fact, careful planning is a necessary step to achieving any long-term goal. But if our plans don't line up with what God has planned for us, we are in for an arduous journey.

At the end of the day, no matter how many lists or plans we've created, they will not come to fruition if God has a different plan for us. God knows the plans He has for us. He has the "big picture" so to speak.

So how do we discern God's plans?

Take a moment to write out Jeremiah 29:11-12



Now read these verses aloud. These verses are our memory verses for this study. I encourage you to write them on index cards and place them in various locations where you spend the most time.

In this first week, we are studying Jeremiah 29:11a, which states: "*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD.* God has created each and every one of us with a specific plan and purpose. The King James Version of the Bible translates this verse as: "*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you.*" God is the initiator of our relationship with Him. God thinks about us - He thinks *towards* us. And He has plans for us.

He has wired us with every gift and talent we need to accomplish what He created us to accomplish for Him. He knows the plans because He gave us the tools to fulfill them. God **knows** the plans He has for us. So, if God knows His plans, what else does God know according to Scripture?

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Isaiah 55:8-9 _____

Psalm 40:5 _____

God knows all plans because He is omniscient. Omniscience means that God fully knows Himself and all things actual and possible – past, present and future. God knows all His works, for He knows His thoughts, and His works agree exactly with His thoughts. He does everything according to the counsel of His will. He knows and sees all things:

1 John 3:20b _____

Job 28:24 _____

Psalm 139:1-3 _____

Psalm 147:5 _____

Romans 11:33-34 _____

Hebrews 4:13 _____

So what does that mean to us as we travel along our Christian journey? All of God's thoughts and actions are perfectly informed by perfect knowledge, so He is perfectly trustworthy.

Pause for a moment and let that sink in.

There is no one else who is perfectly trustworthy except God. *No one*. With that in mind, we can wholeheartedly trust that God's plans will be for our good and His glory.

So how can we discern God's plans? As we undertake the discovery process, note that Scripture often-times doesn't refer to our individual situations, but offers us an overview of the relationship that God desires with us. Let's look at three specific ways that will aid us in discovering God's plans for our lives:

1) We are guided by God's Word.

The Word of God is the sole norm for faith, life, and practice. It is the precise tool for discernment in all things. The Bible helps us understand the overall way that God relates with us. Understanding this reality as we dig into God's Word is vital. As we learn more about God's character and teachings in His Word, the closer we are drawn to God. That knowledge enables and equips us to more accurately discern His direction for us. What does John 14:23 tell us?

2) We are guided by seeking input from those around us.

When we need direction and guidance in our lives, our independence can be a sizeable stumbling block. For nearly every decision we face, someone else has faced a similar decision.

When God called me to launch a Bible teaching/writing ministry, I sought the wise counsel of trusted Christian friends who were already serving in full-time ministry. They were able to not only confirm that they saw that calling and equipping in my life, but also provided invaluable input and wisdom regarding what to expect, how to effectively manage my time, and resources for sound Biblical interpretation and writing.

By opening up and listening to the input of others, I was able to more effectively hear and see where God was directing my path. By listening carefully to the wisdom of Christian counsel and breaking the habit of independence, the practice of being open to God's leading became less intimidating.

The apostles demonstrated this discipline as they met to figure out how to serve meals to the needy in the growing church. See Acts 6:1-4.

3) We are guided by how God wired us.

Much like a house wired for electricity God has wired each of us with certain talents and gifts. If you excel in a certain area or areas, it's a very good indicator that God has designed you uniquely with a purpose toward that area.

When I first began going to church, I wanted to serve in a ministry -- but which one to choose? Having been raised in a musical family and nurtured with a great love for music, I decided to join the choir. Even though I had played flute since fifth grade and loved instrumental music, the only singing I had ever done was singing along with the radio.

What I thought would be just an avenue to serve the Lord on Sunday morning turned into a service that I

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could not have fully imagined. Through singing with the worship team in various capacities at church, God has given me the great privilege to serve newlyweds, grieving families, and those who simply desire to worship God for who He is and what He has done in their lives.

The way God has gifted us is a path to realizing God's unique plan for us:

Psalm 139:14 _____

Ephesians 2:10 _____

Self-study and talking with other Christians can often aide in recognizing the gifts and talents that God has bestowed on you to use for His glory. There are many books (some of which contain tests) that can help you discover your gifts. God gives us gifts with a kingdom purpose.

Let's bring this closer to home. Do you know how God has wired you? Take a minute to list the gift(s) that you believe God has given you:

How are you currently using those gifts in His kingdom work?

Let's review our Bible memory verses for this study. Write out Jeremiah 29:11-12 once more:



Discerning God's plans for our life isn't easy. His Word is **'the'** tool that enables discernment when using the many tools He provides to see the clear picture. God leads us through His Word, input from others, and how He has uniquely wired us. Using those tools to discover God's plans requires diligence. That diligence is rewarded by a fulfilling fruitful spiritual walk that can make a kingdom difference.

Close with prayer:

✠Father, thank You for every good gift You have given me. It is astounding to know that You think **toward** me, Lord. I pray for a discerning heart to discover and know the plans that You have for my life and a way to use them to point others to You. In Jesus' name, Amen. ✠

Lesson Two

Prosperity and Protection

“Plans to prosper you and not to harm you.” (Jeremiah 29:11b Part 1)

When I was a child, if I wasn't nice to someone, didn't do what I was asked to do, or flat out disobeyed, I have vivid recollections of various grown-ups saying, “God will get you for that.” Whether it was my parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, or some other older adult, that phrase stuck with me.

As a random, sporadic “C&E” church-goer (Christmas and Easter), I did not know Jesus. I had no clue who He was. I had some vague impression that He was like God, or even was God, but it wasn't clear in my young mind. But one thing was certain - if I wasn't good, God was going to get me and it wasn't going to be pretty.

That admonition, however innocently intended, caused me to be afraid of God. I didn't know God enough to fear Him, but I had a mental picture of Him just waiting for me to mess up so that He could “get me.” I had no clear idea of what “getting me” entailed, but it didn't sound good or loving. I needed to be good *or else*.

After being baptized and starting my spiritual journey as an adult, it took a long time for that childhood fear to be replaced by God's truth. God simply wants to love me and have a relationship with me. He wants to prosper me, *not* harm me. And He wants the same for you.

Take a moment to write out Jeremiah 29:11-12



In this second week, we are studying Jeremiah 29:11b, which states: *“plans to prosper you and not to harm you.”* In today's world, we face many difficult challenges, including a slumping economy, the war overseas and homeland security. Thankfully the world does not determine our outcome. God does!

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God promises to prosper us and not harm us. The King James Version of this passage says, “*thoughts of peace, and not of evil.*” The Hebrew word for *peace* in this verse is *shalom*, which refers to “contentment, tranquility, safety, and completeness.” I don’t know about you, but I could stand to have a whole lot of peace, contentment and tranquility, couldn’t you?

God repeatedly reminds us that His peace is imparted by the very Word. It is a Word of power. He gives us peace. In fact, it was part of God’s instructions to Moses on how Aaron was to bless the Israelites in Numbers 6:22-26. In Judges 6, after the Lord used Gideon to save Israel out of Midian’s hands, Gideon built an altar to the Lord and named it, “*The Lord is Peace.*”

What amazing promise did God make to David in 1 Chronicles 22:9?

God does not just give us peace, He gives us **His** peace. He alone provides our true peace and safety:

Psalm 4:8 _____

Psalm 29:11 _____

John 14:27 _____

John 16:33 _____

Did you notice two very important words in that last passage? “***In Me***” you may have peace. God not only gives us His peace, He instructs us to seek it, as well:

Psalm 34:14 _____

Romans 8:6 _____

Romans 12:18 _____

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In Isaiah 9:6, God promised that Jesus would be our Prince of Peace. What did He go on to promise in Isaiah 9:7?

His peace will not only increase, but it will have no end. Did you need to hear that today? Sometimes our situations and circumstances can seem full of turmoil and strife, but God promises peace. Isaiah 26:12 says that the Lord has **established** peace for us. Established. Period. Finito. Done deal. Sweet!

As God's ambassadors, we are also called to demonstrate His peace by sharing it with others:

Isaiah 52:7a _____

Acts 10:36 _____

In Philippians 4:7, God tells us that His peace will guard our hearts and minds. Why is that important? When we live in fear and worry it can have far-reaching ramifications.

If our mind is constantly worried about finances, job situation or security, those worries can manifest themselves physically in the form of high blood pressure, strokes, paranoia, and so on. Those physical ailments can lead to work time or activities forfeited and strain on our families. When God prospers us it is for the purpose of salvation (ours and others) and in things spiritual and not material.

God also promises in Jeremiah 29:11b that He thinks "thoughts of peace, and not of evil." Evil is that which would take us away from God and a relationship with Him ("Deliver us from evil"). A pastor that I greatly admire teaches that everything in our lives is Father-filtered. Nothing touches our lives that is not under the watchful and loving eyes of God.

Basically, Satan does not have carte-blanche or free reign with God's children (Job 1:12, Job 2:6, 1 Corinthians 10:13). God is still there, still in control, and limits what Satan can do. The events that we experience in our lives are either permitted or promoted by God for our good or growth.

Sometimes we are the innocent bystanders of the consequences of others' sins (such as a loved one being killed by a drunk driver). In those situations, God *always* brings good out of the bad, for those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.

A few years ago, a young man in his twenties in our congregation was killed in a car accident. He was an only child and his death was extraordinarily painful for his parents. This young man had a passionate heart to reach out to others with the love of Jesus and went on mission trips with our church to help underprivileged people in other countries. Following his death, his parents set up a scholarship fund in their son's memory to financially enable others to participate in mission trips.

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Hundreds and hundreds of people will benefit from that scholarship fund - not only those who will receive the help in the name of Jesus, but the missionaries who respond to God's call to take the Good News to them. God turned a heartbreaking loss into hope for countless others.

Only God can do that.

Receiving and trusting God's promise that His plans are not intended to harm us brings peace. After all, God is our divine protector. No one protects us like God. No one in life's playground can bully us without our Divine Protector interceding on our behalf. God has promised that He *will not* harm us. We can take that to the spiritual bank, friends.

We are sometimes ready to fear that God's designs concerning us, are against us. But God reassures us that they are thoughts of good and not of evil; even that which seems evil is designed for good. God will not give us the expectations of our fears or fancies, but the expectations of our faith: that through Jesus Christ's atoning sacrifice on the cross, we will have eternal life with Him in the place that He has gone to prepare for us.

How do you see God's peace working in your life?

Where does God make this peace available to you in holy worship?

How do you intentionally offer His words of peace to others?

Let's review our Bible memory verses for this study. Write out Jeremiah 29:11-12 once more:



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In a world that oftentimes surrounds us with turmoil and unrest, God offers us the tranquility, safety, and security of His peace. He is not out to get us, even though individuals or circumstances may cause us to doubt that truth. Our Prince of Peace offers us peace that will increase and not end.

It feels good to soak in that wonderful promise with a deep breath of contentment and thanksgiving, does it not?

Close with prayer:

✠Father, I offer this song of prayer as I express to You my thanksgiving for the peace that You flood over my life: “When peace, like a river, attendeth my way; When sorrows, like sea billows, roll; Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It is well, it is well, with my soul.” By faith I know that in death as in life, You will whisper Your peace to my soul. In Jesus’ name, Amen. ✠

Prayer from “When Peace Like a River” *LSB* 763.

Lesson Three

Hope and a Future

“Plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11b Part 2)

What first comes to mind when you hear the word hope? Webster’s defines hope as “to wish for something with expectation.” Each Christmas, we celebrate the birth of our Savior. But the world has a different agenda. When we brave the stores and malls, the resounding sentiment is the expectation of what gifts people will receive from one another under their Christmas tree. Their expectations rest beneath festive gift wrapping and a pretty bow.

As Christians, our expectant hope is placed in something far greater than that. First Peter 1:13 exhorts us to fix your hope completely on the grace being brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ and His atoning, redeeming sacrifice on the cross is our hope.

Where do you fix your hope every morning?

Take a moment to write out Jeremiah 29:11-12:



In this third week, we are studying Jeremiah 29:11b, which states: *“plans to give you hope and a future.”* As God’s people, we have an obligation to live in hope.

Why obligated?

Because we are God’s ambassadors here on earth. Others glimpse Jesus through our words and actions. First Corinthians 13 reminds us that three things abide: faith, hope and love. We’ve heard plenty of sermons on love and read multiple books on faith. But we are strongly urged and encouraged to live in hope, as well.

What does 1 Peter 1:13 tell us?

The plea and will of our Heavenly Father in this verse conveys His earnest desire to shower us with grace. Hope points to the promises of God, ultimately to the promise of that which is eternal (future). We hope for and hope to have what He promises.

Faith grasps the promises and reassures us of them now, before we have fully attained them. Hope looks to (or longs for) what God has promised to do in the future; faith believes God can and will do it because of what He has already done.

In other words, hope expects and faith accepts.

So how does that translate into our lives?

1) Place your hope in God.

As God's children, our hope does not rest in ideas, people, and the things of this world. Those things will come and go. Rather, we have hope fully, decisively, completely and to the end in Him who saved us, gives us grace, and will return.

What does Hebrews 6:18-20a reveal?

We are to fix our anchor within the veil that holds to the eternal Word of God and His unfailing promise. His hope is an anchor for our soul.

2) We owe our hope to God.

Our gracious and great God sent His Son as the perfect, atoning sacrifice to forgive our sins. Through that redemptive act, God offers us the hope for those who believe by faith in Christ's resurrection that we will not spend eternity separated from Him.

God has been faithful in the past and will be faithful in the future, so we are called to live in the light of that future with Him.

God offers us His eternal hope in Him:

Colossians 1:5-6a _____

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Titus 2:13 _____

Psalm 39:7 _____

Psalm 146:5-6 _____

Romans 15:4 _____

Hope in God and His promises should characterize our lives as His children. It is a living hope in the eternal inheritance God promises to all believers through faith.

3) **Hope glorifies God.**

When we allow our despair over this world's difficulties to rule or overwhelm us, we are saying in effect that we do not trust God.

God is glorified when we hope in His future promise, because we are ascribing to God the integrity of that promise. Our covenant-keeping God keeps His promises. When we trust God for the future, we are affirming by that trust that God is trustworthy. That faith and trust brings God glory.

Abraham provides a great illustration of trusting and hoping in God. Read the record about Abraham from Romans 4:16-25.

How do you see Abraham's trust and hope displayed?

What was the result of Abraham's trust and hope in the Lord according to Romans 4:22?

By all human standards, there was no substance or basis for Abraham's hope that he would be a father - much less a father of many nations. But Abraham didn't trust human standards; he trusted God's plans for his future, and God credited Abraham's faith and trust as righteousness.

4) Nothing but Grace.

In 1 Peter 1:13, God's Word tells us exactly on what we are to place our hope: God's grace. The verse doesn't say fix our hope on the end event, our future reward, or even on Christ. We are to fix our hope on GRACE. It's only by God's grace that we are even able to have faith!

When we first received the salvation of our soul, we didn't deserve it, earn it, have a right to it, or were even worthy of it. It was purely God's gift of grace. Grace is unmerited blessing.

It won't be any different in the day of Christ's coming either. We will no more deserve the eternal weight of glory than we deserve the indwelling of the Spirit of glory. It's all because of God's grace. Grace is the sweetest, richest and most wonderful thing there is for a person to ever experience.

Acts 15:11 _____

Ephesians 2:5, 8 _____

2 Timothy 1:9 _____

We hope in God's promised plans for our future because by His grace through faith in Jesus Christ we are able to. God *does* have a plan for our lives - and that promise fosters hope.

How have you experienced God's grace today?

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What about last week?

Let's review our Bible memory verses for this month.

Write out Jeremiah 29:11-12 once more: _____

If your joy has diminished about how wonderful your salvation is, if fellowship with anyone here on earth is more desirable to you than fellowship with Christ, it's time to remember the sweetness of God's grace and what awaits us with Him in eternity.

Living in God's grace and the constant anticipation and hope of His future plans for us with Him is the mark of spiritual maturity. So, fix your hope on God and His grace in your life. And God will be glorified!

Close with prayer:

✠Father, when I realize the price You paid to redeem me and the grace you freely bestow on me I am humbled and awed. I desire to fix my hope on Your grace-filled promise that You hold in Your hands the plans and future for my life. Be gracious to me, Lord, and strengthen me for the days to come so that I may live fully relying on that promised hope. Thank You for the sweetness of Your grace. In Jesus' name, Amen. ✠

Lesson Four

Call Upon the Name of the Lord

*“Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me,
and I will listen to you.” (Jeremiah 29:12)*

If you’ve been a Christian any length of time, you have likely heard the phrase, “Call upon the name of the Lord.” But hearing that phrase and understanding it are two entirely different matters.

Does it refer to praying, worship or a specific act of faith? When do we call upon God? Let’s dig in to God’s Word and hear His instruction.

Take a moment to write out Jeremiah 29:11-12 _____

In this final lesson, we are studying Jeremiah 29:12, which states: *“Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.”* One thing is certain: calling upon the name of the Lord pertains to salvation, because salvation is a direct result calling - God calling us through His Word and Sacraments into a faith relationship with Him.

Salvation is the most common biblical term used to denote the three-fold change that pertains to a person who by faith in Christ alone receives it. A person who calls upon the name of the Lord for salvation (1) is saved from the guilt and penalty of sin (Ephesians 2:5, 8); (2) is being saved from the habit and dominion of sin in this life (Galatians 2:19-20); and (3) will be saved from the curse and physical results of sin (Romans 8:18-23).

The Old Testament provides an extensive record of those who called upon the name of the Lord. Many of the prominent faithful enjoyed the simple, basic discipline of calling on the Lord:

Abraham (Genesis 12:8) _____

Isaac (Genesis 26:25) _____

Samuel (1 Samuel 12:18) _____

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David (2 Samuel 22:7) _____

Elijah (1 Kings 18:24a) _____

New Testament believers continued the practice calling on the name of the Lord, as well. On the day of Pentecost, God poured out His Spirit on the early Christians when they called on the name of Jesus (Acts 2:17, 21). As Stephen was being stoned to death, he called upon the Lord saying, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit” (Acts 7:59). Saul of Tarsus (who later became Paul after meeting the Lord on the way to Damascus) received authority from the chief priests to “bind all who call” (Acts 9:14).

Clearly, their calling on the Lord marked and identified them as Christians. The same rings true of us today. We call upon the Lord in prayer, when we worship Him, and in obedience to His calling in our lives. We call upon the Lord for guidance, wisdom and direction for the plans that He has destined for each of us.

After Saul became the apostle Paul and authored the book of Romans, about what did he assure believers in Romans 10:12-13? _____

Paul even went so far as to say in Romans 10:12 that the Lord will richly bless all who call on Him. What does that mean? The way to receive the riches that the Lord offers us is to call upon Him. That may sound like treasure hunting, and spiritually-speaking that’s not far off.

The most priceless treasure is the Word of the Gospel. It is the power for believing and therefore living a life that trusts God’s plan in all things (Romans 1:16-17). It is priceless because it has the promise of eternal life. An earthly walk in the Word is a life sold out to the message and ministry of Jesus Christ, by leading the life He has planned for you. It’s priceless because it has eternal, indefinable value. Let’s look at a few more examples of Paul’s emphasis of calling on the Lord:

1 Corinthians 1:2 _____

2 Timothy 2:22 _____

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Other references of Old Testament believers calling on the name of the Lord are found in Genesis 4:26 and 21:33. The constant thread in all of these Old and New Testament passages was that God's faithful people call upon His name. It has been correctly said, "The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed; the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed."

By the clear, consistent testimony of all these verses from God's Word, it is very evident that those who truly seek after God call upon His name.

What is God's amazing promise to us in Joel 2:32a? _____

Regardless of our situation, circumstances, hurt, joy, sorrow, pain or contentment, calling upon the name of the Lord invokes His mighty power. We most commonly call upon the name of the Lord through prayer.

May I ask a blunt question? How often do you pray? Does your prayer life consist of blessing meals and saying the Lord's Prayer?

In this week's verse, God is crystal clear that when we pray to Him, He listens. So do we only want Him listening to us bless the food He provided? Absolutely not! God created you and me for relationship - first with Him and then with each other.

If we are honest with ourselves there may be some small part of us that believes this "little thing" called prayer that we do in this fast-paced, flashy world seems invisible and inconsequential. Oh, beloved child of the living God, I beg to differ! For those who pray and keep their eyes on Him, the miracle movements of God's hands are larger than life.

A vibrant and active prayer life teaches us without a doubt that God resides in the details. Scripture is clear that everything can be affected by prayer.

Mark 9:23-29 _____

Philippians 4:6 _____

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The simplicity and straightforwardness of 1 Thessalonians 5:17 is critical: _____

Drawing close to God in prayer on a consistent basis is vital to our spiritual health and Christian walk. Only through the work of the Holy Spirit given by the gospel are we enabled to pray, and through faith in Jesus Christ, we can be absolutely certain that God hears our prayers. He supports us to be able to live the abundant life of freedom with the One who created us, breathed life into us, and loves us like no other. Calling upon the Lord and handing over the custody of life's details makes all the difference in our spiritual walk and ultimate goal.

So when we call upon the name of the Lord and pray continually, what does God promise? In this week's verse, He promises that, "*I will listen.*"

The English Standard Version translates this phrase, "*I will hear you.*" God promises to listen **and** hear. At times, you and I can become distracted when we are listening to other people, can't we? We may have our mind on where we're supposed to be, the item we forgot at the grocery store, a conversation we just had with someone else, or a myriad of other thoughts.

God does not get distracted. He promises that He *will* listen to us and actually *hear* what we say:

Psalms 10:17 _____

Psalms 50:15 _____

Matthew 7:7 _____

In Matthew 7:7, God promises that we will receive what we ask for (according to His plans for us). That settles the fact that God listens and hears us. He knows what we need, what we've prayed for, and provides for our every need.

Jeremiah was a man of prayer, as reflected in his writings throughout the book of Jeremiah. Interestingly, many authors have called Jeremiah the "weeping prophet" (concerning Israel's condition), but Jeremiah was tough.

He led a difficult life. His messages of repentance delivered at the temple were not well received (Jer. 7:1-8:3; 26:1-11). His hometown plotted against him (Jer. 11:18-23), and he endured much persecution in pursuit of

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his ministry (Jer. 20:1-6; 37:11-38:13; 43:1-7). Jeremiah was a determined, dedicated, longsuffering, and visionary follower of God. Jeremiah knew that when he called upon the name of the Lord, God was listening. Beloved, we can take that same truth to heart today.

Let's review our Bible memory verses for this study one final time. Write out Jeremiah 29:11-12. Can you do it from memory?



God has specific plans for your life. By seeking Him in His Word, seeking input from others, and knowing how He wired you, your spiritual walk will make a kingdom difference.

God is not out to get us. He desires for us to have a relationship with Him and then share His love with those whom He puts in our path. He has established His peace in our lives and desires us to seek peace with others.

So, as we close out this study of Jeremiah 29:11-12, we go forward fixing our hope on His grace. We call out to Him and know without a doubt that He hears us, loves us, and listens to us. He has loved you with an everlasting love, and His plans will prosper you beyond your wildest dreams.

Our eternal hope is sure and certain. There is no chance to it, no wishy-washiness.

It is a done deal - done by Christ for us. Hallelujah!

Close with prayer:

✠Father, I love You, worship and adore You. Thank You for the life that You planned for me and providing me the way through faith to spend eternity with You. In Jesus' name, Amen. ✠

Notes

Prayers

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About the Author

Donna Pyle



An engaging speaker, author, Bible teacher and worship leader, Donna has a passion for studying and teaching God's Word. She has authored 18 Bible studies, several Bible studies published in the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly*, numerous devotions, and magazine articles. Donna's DVD-based Bible study series, *Your Strong Suit*, launched nationwide through LWML in November 2011. Her new full-length, small-group based Bible study, *The God of All Comfort*, is available from Concordia Publishing House. Her next DVD-based Bible study series for the LWML, *Overflowing Abundance*, is scheduled for release at the Pittsburgh LWML Convention.

Donna attends Salem Lutheran Church in Tomball, Texas, where she loves serving in the worship ministry. She is passionate about partnering with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League in mission work and providing new avenues for women to get into God's hydrating Word.



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