# "Meeting God in the Present"

Remember: The goal of small group is 100% participation . . . to hear from everyone. Choose the questions you think your group will respond to, but center them around the Bible by using the questions marked with " » "



### **Open It:**

- What's one ordinary, everyday routine in your life where you sometimes forget God is present?
- If you had to choose, would you rather wait patiently for something amazing in the future or experience small, consistent blessings each day? Why??

#### Read It:

Jeremiah 29:1-14

## **Explore It:**

- Why do we often expect to encounter God more in "big" moments than in everyday life?
- How does Jeremiah 29 challenge the idea that God only works in extraordinary events?
- In Jeremiah 29:1–3a, why is it significant that God's message is sent to exiles, not people in comfort?
- Why do you think God often calls His people to long seasons of waiting before restoration?
- In Jeremiah 29:5–7, God commands His people to plant gardens, build homes, and raise families. What does this reveal about how God values the ordinary?
  - What does it mean to "be God's people every day"?

- Jeremiah 29:7 instructs the exiles to pray for Babylon's prosperity. How radical would that have sounded to them? How radical is it for us today?
- How does the call to seek the well-being of the city (v. 7) change how we think about our neighborhoods or communities?
- Jeremiah 29:10 reminds the exiles that restoration will take seventy years. How do we respond when God's timeline is longer than ours?
- How do Jeremiah 29:10–14 shape the way we think about God's promises today—both what is already fulfilled and what we still await?
- Mow do Jeremiah 29:11–14 give hope to people in exile? What stands out to you in those verses?
- Verse 11 says God knows His plans. How does that assurance differ from us knowing the details of those plans?
- In Jeremiah 29:12–13, God promises to listen and be found when His people seek Him. How do we see this fulfilled in Christ?
- What does the phrase "Your present may not change, but your hope can" mean to you?
- How do we balance future promises of God with the reality of present suffering?
- Why might God use suffering and hardship as part of His plans for His people?

#### Do It:

- How will you reframe one "mundane" daily practice as worship this week?
- What is a small act of faithfulness (like "putting away the dish") you will commit to in your family or relationships?
- What would it look like for you to "seek the well-being of your city" in a practical way this month?
- How can you remind yourself that the assurance of Jeremiah 29:11 is not in knowing the plan but in trusting the Planner?