



# GOD'S PLANS ARE MEANT FOR GOOD

Megan Fate Marshman

May 10, 2020

## GROUP ICE BREAKER

Share with the group a new habit or routine that you have picked up during shelter in place that you did not have before.

## REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- I will get a medical evaluation to see if my issue is a physical problem.
- I will see a competent Christian counselor to see if my issue is an emotional problem.
- I will learn from my failure and get back up.
- I will trust that all things are possible because I am still growing.

## THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

Jeremiah 29:11 says “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.” It's hard reading that truth in light of this season, as all of our plans have shifted. We aren't used to not knowing the future, and if you're feeling overwhelmed, know that you are not crazy. Peace can be found in the truth that God knows the plans He has for you. God encourages us to pay attention to His voice. Don't allow God's voice to be drowned out by the news and social media. Media encourages fear, but the Lord encourages peace. The hard times will continue on, but relief will eventually come, so learn to wait well. Seek the peace and prosperity of the people around you, and imagine what it would be like if this season was marked by prayer for you. While God doesn't tell us exactly what His plans are, He does tell us that they are for good. “What if,” breeds fear, but “even if,” breeds faith and showcases trust. “Even if,” your “what if” comes to be, God knows the plans he has for you and His plans are meant for good. Paul's definition of good is to “form you more into the likeness of Christ.”

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Jeremiah 29:11-14. Why is it more important to “find” God than to find out facts about him? What does “finding” him mean to you?
2. Do you feel you can trust God's promise that you will find him when you seek him with all your heart? If not, what hinders you? If so, how did you learn to trust him?
3. Is it difficult for you to not know what God's plans are? Why?
4. How have you learned to trust God's promise of a plan? Share an example with the group.



# GOD'S PLANS ARE MEANT FOR GOOD

Megan Fate Marshman

May 10, 2020

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (CONT)

5. When seasons of life are difficult, we all want a quick resolution or end to the difficulties. God told the Israelites to make the best of where they were in Babylon. Relief would eventually come, but not quickly. What reaction do you have to that? Why would God make them wait?
6. Read Romans 8:28. How does this verse help us when God's plans and promises aren't evident in the situation we find ourselves in?
7. Read Daniel 3:13-18. Discuss the difference between "even if" and "what if." How does each impact our relationship with God and our trust in him?
8. How might God be wanting to use this season to transform you more into the likeness of Him? What would that look like?

## NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will believe God's promise that he has a plan for my future.
- I will focus on what God can do, not what I can't do.
- I will ask God how he wants to use this season to transform me.
- I will use the words of faith and trust, "even if" rather than "what if."

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Jeremiah 29:11-14
- Romans 8:28-29
- Genesis 7:16
- Daniel 3:18
- Luke 4:1