



WORD OF LIFE CHURCH

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Exiles In Babylon • Pastor Brian Zahnd • October 9, 2022

1. Have you moved to a new city as an adult or a child? What was it like starting over in a new place? What did you do to make new friends?

2. Describe your most favorite travel adventure.

Read Jeremiah 29:1-7

3. Why was it important for the ancient people of God to build homes and grow families in Babylon?

4. How were these displaced people of God able to maintain their identity in a pagan world?

5. How does our baptism give us a new identity as the renewed people of God?

6. Read this quote from the Epistle to Diognetus, *“Christians are no different from other people in terms of their country, language, or customs. Nowhere do they inhabit cities of their own, use a strange dialect, or live out of the ordinary. They inhabit both Greek and barbarian cities, according to the lot assigned to each. And they show forth the character of their citizenship in a marvelously and admittedly paradoxical way by following local customs in what they wear and what they eat and in the rest of their lives. They live in their respective countries but only as resident aliens; they participate in all things as citizens, and they endure all things as foreigners.”*

What stands out to you about this description of early Christians?

Read Hebrews 13:12-14

7. How would you describe this city we are longing for, the city that is to come?

8. What can you do to resist the temptation to be formed by the ways of empire?