

## UNCOMMON GOOD: THE FOUNDATION

*Jeremiah 29:1-14*

### MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. LIVE LIKE GOD SENT YOU
2. SEEK THE COMMON GOOD
3. WORK TOWARD HOLISTIC RENEWAL

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. This week we started a new series that will focus on what it means to live lives that are oriented around serving like Jesus wherever we are. What has been your personal experience with serving others? (Note: please share the good, bad, ugly and everything in between)
3. What would it mean for you to live where you currently are as if God sent you there instead of viewing it as an interim space or a detour?
4. Jesus calls His followers the "salt of the earth." This means that we will be distinct enough to bring out the best aspects and offset the worst aspects of any culture. What are some of the aspects of our culture that we can affirm? What are some of the aspects that we should challenge? (Bonus Question: How do we challenge the negative aspects of our culture in a way that is helpful?)
5. Describe a time when you felt "distinct" from your culture because you are a Christian.
6. Take some time as a group to look up some other places in the Bible where the word "shalom" is used (i.e. Ps. 4:8, Ps. 34:14, Prov. 3:17, Isa. 53:5, etc.) How should the idea of "shalom" shape the way we serve the world around us?
7. **PRAY:** We see in Jeremiah 29 that one of the primary ways we can seek holistic renewal for our community, state, nation and world is by praying for them. Spend time as a group praying for the common good and holistic renewal of your neighbors, co-workers and local church. You can also ask God to fill you with love for your neighbor and to show you opportunities to serve.

**A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU:** We are able to lay down our lives for others because we know that Jesus has laid down His life for us.