



Sermon Notes: The Plans I Have for You

Introduction:

Theme:

Though God disciplined his people when they sinned, he did not ultimately give up on them or destroy them, but rather planned for them a future restoration, which they eventually received and experienced through repentance and faith.

Lessons in the spirit of 1 Corinthians 10:6-11:

1. Pay attention to the words of the LORD.
2. If you continue to sin, you will experience the unavoidable and painful discipline of God.
3. God is always just, but he wants to be merciful and gracious to his people.
4. In the end, our hope is found in the purposes and promises of God.
5. Therefore, draw near to God.

Gospel Applications:

1. The Gospel is a declaration of good news over sinners.
2. The good news is that we get shalom because of the grace of Jesus Christ.
3. Therefore, we draw near to Christ in repentance and faith.



Gospel Applications: The Plans I Have for You

1. When/where/how have you heard *Jeremiah 29:11* used before?
2. Forgetting the sermon you just heard on this for a moment, how have you understood/applied this verse in the past? [If you hadn't heard it before, how do you think you would've understood/applied it on your own?]
3. What about the context most helped you to see what verse 11 was actually saying?
4. Christians and even nonbelievers routinely rip verses out of context in order to try to find hope in the midst of trials and unanswered questions. What does this say to you about human nature?
5. Read *1 Corinthians 10:6-11*. What is this saying about how we can read Old Testament stories today? What are some cautions you might share with someone who's learning to pick out moral lessons from their own reading?
6. What are some ways we ignore the voice of God today?
7. In our current era of salvation history, we don't often see people suddenly, dramatically punished by God. How do you think that's influenced our culture's view of sin and judgment?
8. According to the Bible, what are some of the purposes of God for your life? How are these meant to be a source of hope to you when you go through difficult and painful times?
9. What do you know about the Jewish concept of *shalom*? [You might want to do some quick reading on a resource like the *Jews for Jesus* website.] How is *shalom* different from the health and wealth prosperity gospel?
10. What's one thing you'll seek to change in response to this message?