

Acts 15:36-16:10
Sermon Notes
August 5, 2018

Jeremiah 29:11 ESV

11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:10 ESV

10 "For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place.

Romans 8:28 ESV

28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:29 ESV

29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Applying the correct hermeneutical lens:

This text is not about how I can live my life to get what I want.

It is about how God wants to use my life to help others get what they need.

God uses imperfect people with imperfect plans to accomplish a perfect mission.

What is the *missio Dei*, the mission of God?

To be known

Habakkuk 2:14 ESV

14 For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Exodus 19:5-6 ESV

5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; 6 and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

Isaiah 49:3 ESV

3 And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

1 Peter 2:5 ESV

5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Matthew 5:16 ESV

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Most often heard question when leaving church:
What did you get out of the service?

Question that should be heard when leaving church:
Did this community of God's people worship Him today?

"It never occurs to many people to define worship in terms other than meeting individual needs, or to put God rather than personal satisfaction at the center of worship."
Darrell Guder

Ecclesiastes 7:20 ESV
20 Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins.

"God's will may not be the perfection of the true believers life but it is the direction of it." John MacArthur

Philippians 3:12-14 ESV
12 Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 4:7 ESV
7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

Applications:

1. You don't have to wait until you "get things together" to do ministry
2. Your next mistake will not disqualify you from continuing in ministry

3 things about your plans:
1. Stop planning, start doing.

Proverbs 16:3 NLT
3 Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.

3 things about your plans:
2. Involve Others

Proverbs 15:22 ESV
22 Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

3 things about your plans:
3. Look and Listen for God

"Give God 'elbow room'; let Him come into His universe as He pleases."
Oswald Chambers