

Loving the City: Seeking Shalom

Jeremiah 29:1-14



God calls us to seek the good of HK.

- A Command
- How to Seek Shalom
- A Warning
- A Promise

A Command

- You are in HK because God brought you here, and He brought you here because He has a job for you here
- God wants us to make the city our home for as long as we're here

Shalom "means complete reconciliation, a state of the fullest flourishing in every dimension— physical, emotional, social, and spiritual—because all relationships are right, perfect, and filled with joy."

-Tim Keller

A Command

- You are in HK because God brought you here, and He brought you here because He has a job for you here
- God wants us to make the city our home for as long as we're here
- God commands us to make the city better because we're here

Jeremiah 29:1-14

How To Seek Shalom

- Practical Action
 - Keep your eyes open for ways HK falls short of its potential
 - Be part of the community

“When it comes to urban ministry, “being there” makes all the difference. An outsider can seldom know the needs of the community well enough to know how best to respond to them. Rarely, if ever, can an outsider effectively lead the community in finding solutions to its own problems. The kind of leadership that empowers people comes from insiders.”

–Philip Graham Ryken

How To Seek Shalom

- Practical Action
 - Keep your eyes open for ways HK falls short of its potential
 - Be part of the community
 - Adopt an attitude of hope toward the city
 - Share the good news about Jesus
 - Partner with others to do good together that none of us can do on our own

Jeremiah 29:1-14

How To Seek Shalom

- Prayer
 - If we want to see lasting change in the city, we need God to do for us what we can't do ourselves
 - Constantly praying for the good of the people around you crowds out bitterness and anger toward them

Jeremiah 29:1-14

A Warning

- Don't let an expected short stay in HK keep you from loving and investing in the city
- However long you're here, God wants to use you during that time to bring shalom to the city

A Promise

- God has a plan for your good
- Keeping your true home in view allows you to live well in exile
- True home for Christians isn't somewhere in this world, it's being with God