

FIRM FOUNDATION

Discussion Notes

DUDE, WHERE'S MY FUTURE?

As we think about the storms of life, it is helpful to take a break and ask: how are you feeling about the current situation? Where is your head right now? How are you coping with everything going on?

These storms of life can really throw in the air any plans or hopes that we are for the future. What plans or hopes for the future are you worried about or asking question of God about?

Read Jeremiah 29:11 together.

- What does this verse say to you?
- Does the verse ring true with your experience?

Matt explained that without the context of this verse we can misunderstand what it is actually saying. This verse was given to God's people whilst they were in exile. They had been promised by God centuries before that they would have a God-given land to live in. Yet they were taken into exile by the Babylonians and had no way of getting out.

- Have you got any experiences that you could share of when you felt like God had promised you something and it didn't come through as you thought?

Matt shared some of the questions that the Israelites would have had in exile: "where is God? Has the Babylonian god defeated our God? Does God not love us?"

- How do we have a healthy approach to asking God the big questions and wrestling with our doubts?

The big question for us in exile is "How do I get out?". Many of us are thinking about the future and how we are going to get back to our hopes and dreams.

- How do you answer that question: how do I get out? Is it through your planning? Perhaps your hard work? Or does your faith have a part to play here?

In the end, it is Jesus that takes us out of exile when he comes. The same is true for us; we weren't meant to live in exile as we do today and we only find a way out of this in Jesus.

- How can we learn to trust Jesus with our future?
- What can we practically do this week to teach ourselves to trust in Jesus more?