

# It was a dark and stormy night...

## The Darkness of Languishing

Jeremiah 29:4-13

### How do we get there?

1. We get stuck in a rut.
2. We jump from experience to experience.
3. We live in the margins.
4. God takes us there.

### How do we get out?

### How do we make the most of the situation?

1. Understand the virtue of the ordinary.
2. Embrace the value of investment.
3. Pursue the vision of flourishing.
4. Claim this verse (vs. 11) for encouragement.

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### storylines prompt:

Identify a day this week that you anticipate being ordinary. Commit to finding the good in the day, and then write about your experience.



## resource guide

### First Five / Final Five:

⇒ Take the first five minutes of each day to READ God's Word, and the final five minutes of your day to REFLECT on God's Work in your life.

### The Big Idea:

- In your own words, how would you summarize the main idea of the message?

### From the Message:

- What is your usual response when you are experiencing the “meh” moments of life?
- The problem with languishing is that it often leaves us feeling demotivated or lethargic. How might you get past that?
- How can you be more satisfied in the present, yet more hopeful of the future?
- What would be your definition of “flourishing”? How does it line up with God's?

### From the Passage:

- The Hebrew word for “plans” in Jeremiah 29:11 is often used in the Old Testament to describe the work of craftsmen or artisans. It has an element of inventiveness, design, even creativity in it. How does that expand your view of the plans God has for you?

### Think it through / Talk it over:

- How have you seen God's plan in your life played out to this point?
- What do you think God's plan looks like? How can you know what it is? How important is it to know? Why do you think that?
- How have you been benefitted by the times you have spent in languishing? Or have you?

### Take a Step:

⇒ Truth transforms us only as we take action. What is that one step you need to take?