

# SERMON DISCUSSION

MAY 10, 2020

## Questions

Even when threat scatters us, we have a uniting hope through Christ!

**Hope for the Scattered: Conclusion**

**David Lane**

### WARM-UP

1. Happy Mother's Day! Read Proverbs 31:29. Do you have a favorite story or memory of your mother, step-mother or grandmother who did "noble deeds"?

### DIGGING DEEPER

#### THE SITUATION

2. Pastor Dave talked about the southern kingdom and the northern kingdom. What does this mean? Who was Jeremiah? Which kingdom was he a part of? In what way?
3. Describe the historical milestones that Pastor Dave recounted that led to what is known as the "Babylonian Exile." What happened to the Jews in Judah when the Babylonians attacked Jerusalem? What was Jeremiah's role and fate?
4. How was the exile of the Jews from their homeland like today's situation with the pandemic?

#### THE EXPECTATION – READ Jeremiah 29:4-7

5. In the midst of this 'worst case scenario' for the Jews in exile, God's words and commands to them in verses 4-6 are, in some ways, perplexing. What did He command them to do – in other words, what was His expectation? Why?
6. Verse 7 is eye opening. Based on this verse, how were they to gain their welfare (well-being)? And what does this tell us about how are we to proceed in these days of the pandemic? Discuss the implications of this verse in our day-to-day lives right now.
7. Pastor Dave reflected on how these verses relate to EAC's mission statement. What is our mission statement? And what is our expectation for ourselves as expressed in our mission statement in light of the pandemic?
8. Read Matthew 28:19-20. What are Jesus' expectations of His followers?

## **THE ANTICIPATION** – READ Jeremiah 29:11-14

9. Who has the ultimate plan for us, individually and collectively? What does this plan provide for (verse 11)? How do we 'tap into' and understand His plan (verses 12 and 13)? What is the anticipation we can hope for today in verse 14, both in the midst of the pandemic, but more importantly, in general and at all times?
10. Read 1 Peter 1:13 – What are we to fix our hope on? And when will this come? We understand this to be 'The Great Anticipation' – explain what this means in your own words. Are you hopeful in this understanding?

## **PRAYER**

*Pastor Dave invited us to be the hope for the scattered – to pray for our city – to make the most of this time. Come to Jesus with your prayer of hope for those in need, for our city and all the businesses and gathering places of our town, that they might receive His hope, and that we might be His ambassadors of His grace.*

## **USEFUL LINKS**

***Just in case you missed the service, here are the EAC, Facebook, and YouTube links:***

<http://edgewateralliance.org/media/sermon-videos>

<https://www.facebook.com/edgewateralliance/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/dd5648>

**Share your story:** [mystory@edgewateralliance.org](mailto:mystory@edgewateralliance.org)

# THE S.O.A.P METHOD

*SOAP is a simple method to study your Bible*

It's simple. Just take out your journal and start by working through a passage or chapter of Scripture. As a heading, write the reference for that passage at the top of the page, along with the date. Then, just write the first letter of the words serving as headings below, and follow the instructions that come after. Your entire SOAP should take up about one page in your journal.

**SCRIPTURE:** As you read through your passage of Scripture, write down the verses or sections "word for word" that really stuck out to you as memorable or interesting.

**OBSERVATION:** Now focus on the verses that you just wrote down in the "S" section. What do you think the author is saying in the text? What does it mean? What does it reveal as true about God? What does it reveal as true about people? Don't apply yet!

**APPLICATION:** Now, write down what needs to change in your life based on what you've read in this verse. Based on your observations, how should you apply this to your life? This is a really important step. Scripture does us little good unless we put it into practice.

## **PRAYER:**

- Always use worship as the base for your prayers rather than requests  
(Seek His face not just His hand)
- Allow the scripture to feed your worship.  
(What does this passage reveal about Him that you celebrate and adore?)
- Ask the Spirit to lead your prayer.  
(Spend time listening for His voice and prompting rather than presenting a list and doing all the talking)