I. FIRST, REALIZE THAT WE ARE WHERE WE ARE BECAUSE GOD WANTS US HERE.

   A. Remember the background of Jeremiah 29.

   B. God’s answer is found in verse 4.

   C. Solomon said this too—Proverbs 16:9.

II. SECOND, REALIZE THAT WE MUST MAKE THE MOST OF OUR PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

   A. This is what Jeremiah says—vv. 5-6.

   B. How could we say this today?

III. THIRD, REALIZE THAT WE MUST COME TO GRIPS WITH REALITY, INCLUDING OUR PAST.

   A. Some of us get messed up at this point.

   B. Three statements that might help us come to grips with the reality our past or our present situation

      1. You can’t go back.

      2. You can’t stay where you are now.

      3. You must go forward.