

Sermon Series Title: "The Church of God"

Sermon Series Summary: The Church of God is the people of God throughout the ages, redeemed by Jesus Christ. We're going to take a look at who we are and who we are called to be as the church of God. More specifically, we see that who we are is directly connected to whose we are in Christ.

"We are in our "The Church of God" sermon series, and we see that we are defined not by who we are but whose we are as the Church."

Call: Luke 2:29-32

Text: Jeremiah 29:1-14

Title: "The Outward Church"

Next Week's Call: Revelation 5:6-8

Next Week's Text: Luke 5:1-11

Next Week's Title: "Our Mission"

Future Calls: Revelation 5:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; Revelation 15:3, 4; Revelation 21:1-4, 5-7, 22-23

Future Titles: "Church as City" (Ephesians 2:19, Hebrews 13:14, Revelation 21:2), "Church as Body" (1 Corinthians 12:12-31), "Church as Family" (John 1:12-13), "Church as Bride" (Ephesians 5:22-33), "The Eternality of the Church" (Revelation 21:1-7)

Fallen Condition Focus:

Christ redeeming FCF:

Central Truth: ""

Summary: The church is called to live as exiles into this world, but not to the exclusion of this world. The gospel is not meant to just stay in the walls of the church, but to step into the culture around us.

Reflective Questions:

1. What is stirred in you when you hear that Christians are to live as exiles in this world? How does your life experience help or hinder your understanding of this biblical concept? How can we better mindfully live as exiles?

2. In what ways would it be easier to live totally separated from the world and culture around us? In what ways would it be easier to live totally the same as the world and culture around us? Why is neither a gospel-shaped option?
3. The church is to live, simultaneously, in care of the culture and counter to the culture? What are some ways you have seen churches and Christians fail to do one or the other well? Why do you think that is?
4. God says that he sends his people to where they are. What are some ways you can seek the welfare of where we live? What are some things you can pray to the Lord on its behalf?
5. How does the promise of Christ's return and the hope that all of creation will be made new and that people from every tribe and tongue will be saved and worship, as the Church, shape how you can live as an exile today?