**Living a Life of Gospel-Fueled Service and Generosity**

**Lesson 6:** Seek the Welfare of the City

**Sunday Message Text:** Jeremiah 29:4-7.

**Big Idea:** God calls us to invest in the flourishing of our community – not just for the good of others, but to bring Him glory. When we live this out, our lives point people to Jesus.

**Focus:** The life you’re already living, through your work and in your community, can be seen as a testimony to God’s presence and a chance to bring Him glory.

1. Jeremiah 29:7 tells us to “seek the peace and prosperity (shalom) of our city” and to pray to the Lord for it”. How does this give you a better understanding of what it means to be a good neighbor?
2. In what ways is your community “better off” because of your presence? The presence of GBC? How can you become more involved in bringing it *shalom*?

**Read** 1 Peter2:11-17.

1. V.11 - What does Peter mean when he calls Christians “foreigners and exiles”? How should the reality that we’re temporary residents here influence the way we live every day?
2. V.12 – Why is it important for believers to have a good reputation with non-believers? How can our actions impact the people around us, especially when they’re already skeptical about Christianity?
3. Vs.13-15 – Why is submission to authorities important, even when they may not be just or fair? What does it mean that we should submit for the Lord’s sake?
4. V.16 – Is Christian freedom about doing whatever we want when we want, or is there a different kind of freedom suggested here? Explain.
5. V.17 – How does the challenge of respecting everyone, loving believers, fearing God, and honoring authority apply in the community/world we live in today…especially when the “emperor and rulers” might be opposed to Christian values?
6. In what ways can your community (work, school, neighborhood, etc.) see Jesus through your actions this week, especially when they may disagree with your beliefs or values?
7. How can the GBC family together, be more intentional about living these things out as a combined witness of the Good News of Jesus Christ to our surrounding community?