

## “Love Our Communities”

**Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a flexible guide that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God’s Word.**

### Message Summary

The G.O.S.P.E.L. Plan is how New Day Church responds to the Gospel message in everyday life. As we gather to express our faith in worship and confess our hope in community, we will scatter to demonstrate love to the world. The G.O.S.P.E.L. Plan is how we will “show & share” the Gospel in the world throughout everyday life and on mission to the ends of the earth.

Everything we do in the G.O.S.P.E.L. Plan comes from a heart of love for people. We love others because Jesus first loved us. This is the way God has been working and carrying out His plan for the nations for all of history since the Fall in the Garden of Eden. God sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden. However, before He expelled them He promised them a Redeemer. He sent Abram to an unknown land but promised that through Abram all the nations would be blessed. He sent His people into slavery yet He sent Moses to redeem them. He sent the children of Israel to Assyria and Babylon yet He promised they would return. All of this was done out of a heart of love. God has always brought salvation to His people through judgment. God sent His Son into the world and judged Him by laying our sin on His Son. He brought salvation to us through judging His Son.

God is holy and just and He cannot be just without judging sin. Therefore, as He sent the children of Israel into Babylon, God knew it was for their own good and for His glory. However, in His judgment on their sin, He was working a plan of salvation in the lives of people. Just as the children of Israel were to live, work, and multiply in the city they were to seek the welfare of the city and pray to God on its behalf. Why? Because just as God had loved His children He calls His children to love those to whom He sent them.

This is God’s plan for your life. This is why it is imperative for us to love our communities. No matter your circumstances, you can be sure that if you know Jesus as Lord and Savior, God’s plan for you right now is good. He sent you to your community because He loves you and since He loves you, He calls you to display the same love to others. Just as He sought your spiritual welfare by sending Jesus to pay the price for your sin, He calls you to seek the welfare of those who don’t know Him yet. Your goal is not to love people in order to grow big churches. Rather, your goal is to use your resources to love people so that they might see His glory. This will be accomplished by seeking the good of all the people in your community. Whether it’s social, economic, or spiritual flourishing, God has called you to seek the welfare of your community. This is how you love your community!

### Message Outline

Why should I love my community?

1. God sent you there because He loves you! (v.4)  
Your life is Temporal.  
Your life is Transitional.
2. God has given you life and expects you to live it for Him. (vs.5-6)  
Your life is Missional.  
Live.  
Work.  
Play.  
Multiply.
3. God pursues the welfare of His Image-bearers. (v.7a)  
Your life is Sacrificial.
4. God provides for His people as He provides for the community. (v.7b)  
Your life is Intercessional.

Therefore,

1. Let’s multiply where we live, work, play.
2. Let’s seek the good of our communities.
3. Let’s pray for the good of our communities.

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### **Group Discussion**

Use the following questions to help make application of God’s Word to your Head (What God wants me to know), to your Heart (What God wants me to desire/value), and to your Hands (What God wants me to do).

In regard to Jeremiah 29:4-7:

1. What does this passage teach about God? (God’s Identity; Theology)
2. What does this passage teach about what God has done? (God’s Action; Christology)
3. What does this passage teach about man/me? (Old & New Creation Identity; Ecclesiology)
4. What does this passage teach about what I should do? (Reveals what I really believe about Questions 1-3; Missional Ecclesiology)
5. What does this passage teach about how I do it uniquely in my context? (personal action steps of obedience)

### **Weekly Prayer Focus**

- **Church:**
  - Pray that all who have believed the Gospel will obey Jesus in believer’s baptism.
  - Pray for new relationships that will lead to Gospel conversations.
  - Pray for the elders as they lead us to accomplish the mission.
  - Pray for the Missional Communities to impact their communities with the Gospel.
  - Pray for Missional Communities to multiply into new neighborhoods.
  - Pray for new DNA groups to start.
- **Local:**
  - Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
  - Pray that God will identify 5 people you can begin to invest in and engage with the Gospel.
- **Global:**
  - Pray that God would give you a heart for the nations.
  - Pray for the team working in SEA, the new believers, for those who have heard the Gospel, and the church planting movement among the unreached.
  - Pray for Good Shepherd Ministries and Bill & Sandy Younger.
  - Pray for Servants Hearts Ministries and Bob & Georgette Kornegay.
  - Pray for Pastor Abraham and his church in Guatemala.
  - Pray for the work of Paul & Sarah Young and Dakota Baptist Church in North Dakota.