

## Week 4 - The Exile

### INTRODUCTION

We're going through a study called "Cover to Cover: A 50-Day Flyover of the Bible." By reading approximately 1-2 chapters a day and watching a few 5-8 minute videos from the Bible Project each week, we'll discover the answers to some of life's biggest questions and come to a better, more helpful understanding of the Christian faith and the beauty of its promise for the world.

This week, we're discussing the readings, videos, and message from Week 4 titled "The Exile."

### REVIEW & DISCUSS

1. Did you complete all readings? All the videos?
2. What stood out to you from last week's readings and videos? Any favorites or most interesting?
3. How well did the people of God do at being the "people of God"?
4. Reflecting on the book of Judges and Kings, why do you think the people kept turning away from God? Why do people today turn away or ignore God?
5. What was the message of the prophets to them?
6. There were two Exiles: the Assyrian captivity of the 700s BC and the Babylonian captivity of the 500s BC. What's the significance of Exile and its meaning in the Bible? What does it mean to live in the Way of the Exile?
7. Read Jeremiah 29:7. What do you think it would've been like for them to be conquered and captured by the Babylonians, then given this instruction by God: "Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Why was this important? What lesson were they to learn here?
8. What do you know about the "Intertestamental Period"?

### TAKEAWAY

1. In what ways have you tried to do life on your own apart from God?
2. In what ways do you resonate with the Israelite's experience of losing what they knew and loved?
3. How have you learned from your mistakes and become stronger?

### PRAYER

First, take some time to ask people to identify prayer needs related to the discussion. Second, take some time to ask for additional prayer requests. Then close your time together in prayer.