

*Jeremiah 29:11*

*For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*

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***“Are We Promised Blessings in this Life?”******Discussion Questions***

1. Have you experienced the "expectation gap" that Pastor Jim described in his sermon? What has that looked like in your life?
  2. Pastor Jim described three sources that contribute to this gap. One is an incomplete understanding of the what the Scripture really says. A second might be our tendency to read Scripture with ourselves at the center of focus -- instead of Jesus Christ. A third would include all texts that seem to imply promises (like Proverbs 22:6), that just don't seem to "pay off" in our lifetime. Which of these resonate with your experience? How might that answer influence the next step you take in your discipleship journey?
  3. Read the following texts -- Romans 8:38-39, Matthew 28:20, Romans 8:15-18, Hebrews 11:13-16, Lamentations 3:22-23 and Ephesians 1:3. What do these verses tell us about what we can expect from God? What difference might this make in your daily walk with Christ?
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If you would like to discuss this sermon topic in more detail with Pastor Jim, feel free to email him at [jbirchfield@fpchouston.org](mailto:jbirchfield@fpchouston.org).