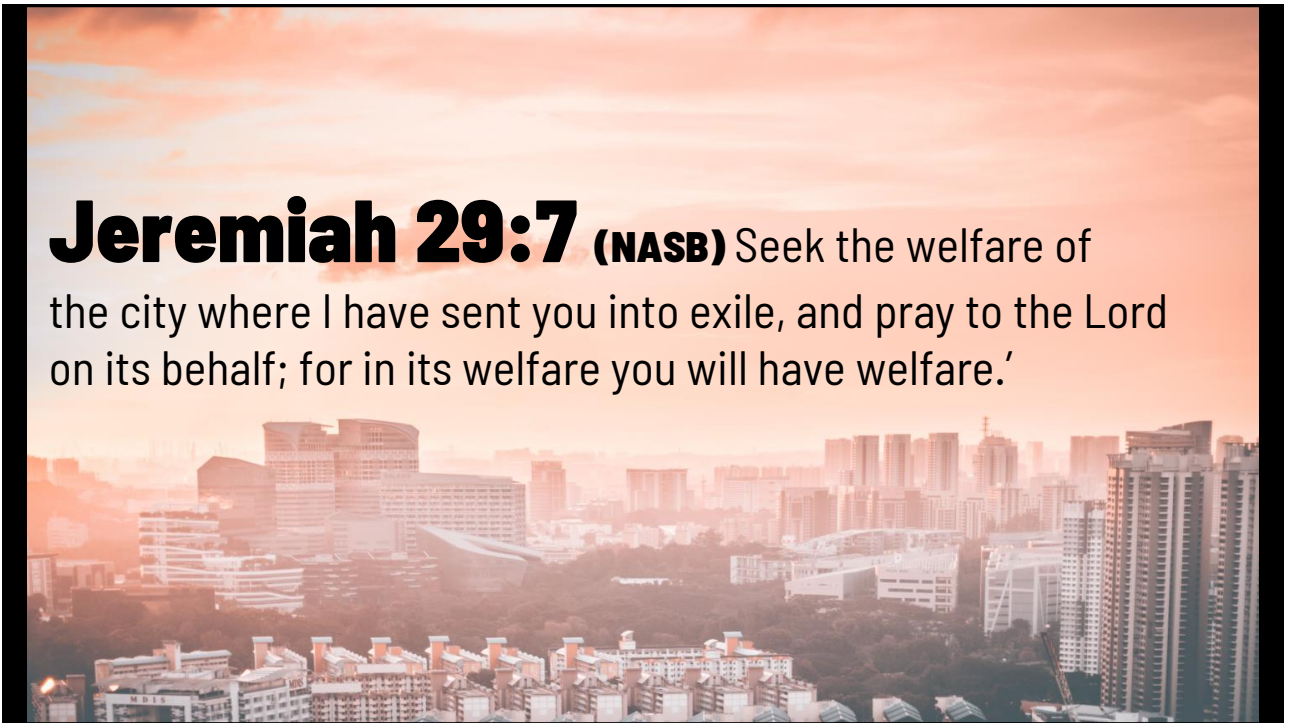




Jeremiah 29:7 (NASB) Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.'



Context - Bad News & Good News

- Judgment - Jeremiah 15:5-6

Jeremiah 15:5-6

5 "For who will have pity on you, O Jerusalem? Or who will bemoan you? Or who will turn aside to ask how you are doing? **6** You have forsaken Me," says the Lord, "You have gone backward. Therefore I will stretch out My hand against you and destroy you; I am weary of relenting!"

Context - Bad News & Good News

- Hope - Jeremiah 16:15

Jeremiah 16:15 But it will be said, 'As surely as the Lord lives, who brought the Israelites up out of the land of the north and out of all the countries where he had banished them.' For I will restore them to the land I gave their ancestors.

Context - Bad News & Good News

- Restoration - Jeremiah 23:3

Jeremiah 23:3 I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number.

Context - Bad News & Good News

- False Prophecy - Jeremiah 28:2-3

Jeremiah 28:2-3

2 This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says: 'I will break the yoke of the king of Babylon. **3** Within two years I will bring back to this place all the articles of the Lord's house that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon removed from here and took to Babylon.'

Context - Bad News & Good News

- Judgment - Jeremiah 15:5-6
- Hope - Jeremiah 16:15
- Restoration - Jeremiah 23:3
- False Prophecy - Jeremiah 28:2-3
- **Letter to the Exiles - Jeremiah 29**
(False Prophecy Refuted)

Jeremiah 29:4-9 (NASB)

4 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon, **5** 'Build houses and live in them; and plant gardens and eat their produce. **6** Take wives and become the fathers of sons and daughters, and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; and multiply there and do not decrease.



Jeremiah 29:4-9 (NASB)

7 Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.

8 For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Do not let your prophets who are in your midst and your diviners deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams which they dream. **9** For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them,' declares the Lord.



Jeremiah 29:10-14 (NASB)

10 "For thus says the Lord, 'When seventy years have been completed for Babylon, I will visit you and fulfill My good word to you, to bring you back to this place. **11** For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. **12** Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

Jeremiah 29:10-14 (NASB)

13 You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. **14** I will be found by you,' declares the Lord, 'and I will restore your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,' declares the Lord, 'and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.'



A. Seeking the Welfare of the City

- Sinking in our roots
- Populating the city
- Praying for the city

**Know your Community.
Be part of it.**



SOBERING STATISTICS



- **4563** youths aged 10 to 19 called the SOS suicide hotline (2015-16).
- **3 in 4** say they have been cyber bullied, some from as young as 8 years old of age. Almost **2 in 3** of those bullied become bullies themselves.
- **10-14%** of Singaporeans still face severe financial problems and have difficulties meeting basic needs.

SOBERING STATISTICS



- Singapore has around **500,000** people aged 65 and older, and the number is expected to almost double to about **900,000** by 2030.
- By 2030, there will be an estimated **83,000** seniors living alone.
- The number of elderly aged 60 and above who took their own lives peaked at **129** last year, the highest since suicide tracking started in 1991.

Video - ExcITE Student Work



B. Seeking the Welfare of the City - Today's Application

- Be in the world, not of the world

John 17:15-16

15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. **16** They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.



B. Seeking the Welfare of the City - Today's Application



Living our present
life in light of
our future hope.

B. Seeking the Welfare of the City - Today's Application

- Do not withdraw from the world but be Salt & Light.

Matthew 5:13-14

13 You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. **14** You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.



B. Seeking the Welfare of the City

- Today's Application

- Live good lives for God's glory.

1 Peter 2:12 (NIV) Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Video - Family Casework



C. Seeking the Welfare of the City

- For in its welfare, you will have welfare

Not a call to be selfish

C. Seeking the Welfare of the City

**- For in its welfare,
you will have welfare**

- The example of our Lord.

2 Corinthians 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.




Video - SCC Student

A video frame showing two people sitting on a light-colored couch against a yellow background. On the left is a young man with black hair and glasses, wearing an orange t-shirt. On the right is an older man with dark hair, wearing a blue and white polo shirt with orange stripes on the sleeves. A red text box is overlaid on the bottom left of the frame.

BRENDAN

Sec 2 Student at Student Care Centre

A close-up video frame of the young man, Brendan, wearing his orange t-shirt and glasses. He is speaking and looking slightly to the right. The background is yellow.

If you see
the children happy
You will also be
happy
- Brendan -

C. Seeking the Welfare of the City

- For in its welfare, you will have welfare

- The secret of Christian Giving.



2 Corinthians 8:1-5 (NIV)

1 And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches.

2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.

3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own,

4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.

5 And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.



CONCLUSION

John 10:10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

An **ABANDONED LIFE** for an **ABUNDANT LIFE**



CONCLUSION

Ephesians 2:10

For we are
His workmanship,
created in Christ Jesus
for good works,
which God prepared beforehand
that we should walk
in them.

CONCLUSION



Esther 4:14

For if you remain completely silent
at this time,
relief and deliverance will arise
for the Jews from another place,
but you and your father's house will perish.
Yet who knows whether you have come
to the kingdom

for such a time as this?"

Video

- Thank You -