

Echo Summer Series: Rediscover

Echo Church | Week 27 | July 6, 2025 | Rich Saunders Jr. |

“Rediscover Your Purpose” | Jeremiah 29:4-12 NKJV

4 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon:

5 Build houses and dwell in them; plant gardens and eat their fruit.

6 Take wives and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons and give your daughters to husbands, so that they may bear sons and daughters—that you may be increased there, and not diminished.

7 And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace.

8 For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are in your midst deceive you, nor listen to your dreams which you cause to be dreamed.

9 For they prophesy falsely to you in My name; I have not sent them, says the Lord.

10 For thus says the Lord: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

12 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

"The greatest tragedy in life is not death, but a life without purpose." – Myles Munroe

Let me say it like this: You weren't just born to exist; you were born to live on purpose. And when you rediscover your purpose, you rediscover your power.

What Does It Mean to Rediscover?

Definition of Rediscover:

Rediscovering means finding something again that you thought was lost. It's not about creating something new—it's about uncovering what's already there.

Purpose isn't something you invent; it's something you uncover. It's been there all along, waiting for you to see it.

Jeremiah 29 is a letter written to the Israelites who were in exile in Babylon. They were snatched from their homeland, stripped of their identity, and stuck in a place they didn't want to be. They were frustrated, discouraged, and probably asking, "God, where are You in all of this?"

Now, we love to quote Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you..." But let's be real—this wasn't a quick-fix promise. God wasn't saying, "I'm about to get you out of this mess tomorrow." He was saying, "I've got a plan, but it's going to take some time." Seventy years, to be exact. This wasn't about instant gratification; it was about long-term transformation.

God was telling them, "I haven't forgotten about you. I know it feels like you're stuck, but I'm still working. I'm still God. And even in this season of waiting, I want you to thrive." He was calling them to rediscover their purpose, even in a place they didn't want to be.

Romans 8:28 (NIV): "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

God can take the good, the bad, and the ugly and still make it work for your purpose.

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV): "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

You can have all the plans in the world, but if they're not aligned with God's purpose, they won't stick.

Ephesians 2:10 (NIV):

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

You're not an accident. You're God's masterpiece, and He's already set up opportunities for you to walk in your purpose.

### Points for Rediscovering Purpose

Embrace the Process (Jeremiah 29:5-7):

God told the Israelites to build houses, plant gardens, and seek the peace of the city they were in. In other words, "Make the most of where you are right now."

Relatable Insight: Sometimes, we're so focused on where we want to be that we miss what God is doing where we are. Purpose isn't just about the destination; it's about the journey.

Application: Stop waiting for the "perfect" season to live on purpose. Start where you are, with what you have. God can use you right here, right now.

Trust God's Timing (Jeremiah 29:10-11):

God's promise to the Israelites came with a timeline—70 years. That's a long time to wait, but God's timing is always perfect.

Relatable Insight: Let's be honest—waiting is hard. But just because it's delayed doesn't mean it's denied. God's plan is still in motion, even when it feels like nothing is happening.

Application: While you're waiting, don't waste the wait. Worship while you wait. Work while you wait. Trust that God's timing is better than your timeline.

Reconnect with the Source (Jeremiah 29:12-13):

God told the Israelites, "Call on me, come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. Seek me with all your heart, and you will find me."

Relatable Insight: Rediscovering your purpose starts with rediscovering God. When you seek Him, He reveals who you are and what you're called to do.

Application: Make time for God. Spend intentional time in prayer, worship, and the Word. Purpose flows from intimacy with God.

God hasn't forgotten about you. Your purpose isn't lost; it's just waiting to be rediscovered. Embrace the process, trust His timing, and reconnect with the Source. When you do, you'll find that God's plan for your life is bigger, better, and more beautiful than anything you could imagine.

Final Quote:

"God's purpose for your life is bigger than your mistakes, stronger than your struggles, and more powerful than your past." – Dharius Daniels