



WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH

STUDY GUIDE | FEBRUARY 13, 2022

CHOSEN EXILES

THE POINTS FROM THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE WERE:

- You are an exile
- We are not at home.
- You are chosen.
- Nothing you do can make God love you any more and nothing you do can make God love you any less.

LET'S TALK

1. What impacted you the most from this week's message?
2. Life is a storm – you're either coming out of one, in the middle of one or heading into one. How do you identify with this statement?
3. Read Phil 3:20, John 17:16 and Heb 11:16. The idea that we are exiles and pilgrims on earth is a theme that runs throughout the Bible. Do you think Christians tend to see themselves as exiles? Why or why not? What implications do you think this has for when we face suffering or find our lives unfulfilling?
4. Read 1 Peter 4:12-19. How much of your suffering do you think comes from the fact that you're surprised you even have to suffer? How does Peter's instructions in this passage encourage you?
5. Kyle Harper says, *"This life was always meant to be transitory and just part of a larger story. What was important to these Christians was to orient one's life towards the larger story, the cosmic story, the story of eternity. They did live in this world, experience pain and lost loved ones. But the Christians of that time were called to see the story of this life as just one of the stories in which they lived."*

What enabled Christians during ancient pandemics to respond well in the face of suffering? How does this challenge you?

6. Read Jeremiah 29:4-7. When the Israelites were in exile, the prophet Jeremiah reminded them to live out their identity and mission as God's people in a foreign land.

What is one way you can live out your identity and mission this week (even during difficult times)?

LET'S PRAY: Spend some time in prayer (for each other, for our community and for the world).

This resource and additional study guides are available at cornerstonechurch.ca/sermons
For more group resources including icebreakers, group activities, serving and other meeting ideas, visit cornerstonechurch.ca/onlinegroupideas