

Reflection/Discussion Questions

September 20, 2026

Sermon: When The House Isn't Home

Series: Hope In the Promises #1

Bible: Jeremiah 29:4-14;

Nehemiah 9:35-37; Luke 15:1-7

Speaker: Pastor Mike Kleven



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1. When has a familiar place—your house, a job, a classroom, even church—stopped feeling like home?
 2. Exile can be internal: you are still in the place, but you no longer belong. Where have you felt that kind of dislocation?
 3. What instructions does God give the exiles in Jeremiah 29:4-7, and why do those instructions surprise people who want a quick way home?
 4. Jeremiah 29:11 is often printed on graduation cards. How does reading it as a word to people in pain change what the promise means?
 5. After the wall is rebuilt, the people still cry, “So today we are slaves!” (Nehemiah 9:36). What does that reveal about a house that is not yet home?
 6. In Luke 15:1-7, who comes near Jesus, who complains, and what does the shepherd do that a better map could never do?
 7. The sermon names money, sex, and power/control as empires that still enslave. Which of those “pretty houses” most tempts you to settle short of home?
 8. Where are you still fighting the Shepherd—running, hiding, or insisting you know where the better grass is?
 9. What would it look like this week to seek the Lord with all your heart and let Him be available to you where you actually live?
 10. How will you live out “The only hope for coming home is on the shoulders of Jesus” this week? Share a specific prayer request for accountability and support.