



## are you going to settle?

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The same God you saw at work overseas in the lives of the people you were ministering to is the exact same God at work wherever you call home. His power bridges cultural, social, geographical, and economical divides. He is alive. He is working in your school, family, friends, work places, sports teams, and youth groups. Recognizing His presence around you in your local context can feel challenging. You might be thinking that your day-to-day interactions with people are just routine and feel mundane. Pray for the eyes to see others as Christ sees them; pray for opportunities to minister to others right where you're at.

So, settle down, right where you're at. Establish a life for yourself right where you're at. Don't wish to be somewhere else, to be someone else, or to go back to a former way of living. He has planted you exactly where you're supposed to be for this season, and wants you to use the tools, skills, and new knowledge you have been given to impact the "world" around you. Take advantage of every opportunity to show Christ's love to someone in a practical way. Remember that He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and His power to save the lost actually starts with the people in our backyards! You had the blessing to cross oceans to see how desperately people need a Savior. Now you have the privilege of crossing the street to *continue* to see how desperately people need a Savior.

### read

Jeremiah 29:1-14  
Hebrews 13:1-25

### in addition...

Watch the Bible Project Video: The Way of the Exile <https://youtu.be/XzWpaOgcPyo>

### reflect & journal

1. After the Israelites were sent into Exile in Babylon, what were they commanded to do? Even though they would not remain in Babylon forever (or permanently), they were encouraged to establish a life for themselves in Exile.
2. Why does the Lord care if they are settled or not? What difference does it make if they are just going to leave again? How would God's mission in Babylon be limited if His people always lived packed and ready to leave? In contrast, if they were truly present in their current context, what possibilities might exist?
3. Hebrews 13 is packed with commands. How do these commands (v.1-9, 16-18) help this early church community "settle in" in a way that is still true to who they are as God's people?
4. How might God be calling you to "settle in" where you are - no matter how long you might be there? How might He want to use this time/experience? How does this mess with our expectations of how/where/when God is present with us and "ministry" happens?
5. What are some ministry opportunities you have as you "settle in" with your family, school, sports team, local grocery store, coffee shop, etc.? What are you going to do with the opportunities right in front of you?

### pray

- Pray for eyes to see the people we need to engage with i.e., family, specific people group, specific person, or someone at school.
- Pray for opportunities to see others in our local contexts as Jesus sees them.
- Pray for opportunities to share the Gospel (with words).