

# renewal



January 22nd, 2017  
Renewing the City



This week, Eric Jacobsen, Senior Pastor of 1st Presbyterian Tacoma and expert on “New Urban” community, preached on Christian urban renewal from Jeremiah 29.

## READ

Jeremiah 29:4-7

## REFLECT

1. Eric began by addressing our tendency to withdraw from the culture around us. Have you ever disengaged from the City? What does it mean to you that God calls us to engage further instead of disengaging?
2. Eric discussed how our home lives and our ordinary rituals are the starting point in bringing change and renewal to the city. How have you seen the domestic sphere influence your impact on a broader scale?
3. Where have you experienced Shalom?
4. Eric talked about the three screens that have dramatically changed our ability to relate to those around us. How has your ability to travel all over town in your car and to commute from home to work without interacting with neighbors effected your relationships? Have you felt a reliance on television drawing you further away from community? Have you used your phone as a vehicle to avoid personal contact?
5. Jeremiah charged the Israelites to seek shalom in a specific place that He had placed them in. What is the specific place where God has placed you?

## PRAY

- + Confess to God how disengage from things that are hard, things that are costly, things that require risk on our part.
- + Thank God for granting us power to be a part of renewal.
- + Ask God to help us engage with our communities in meaningful ways.
- + Pray for spiritual renewal and revival in our community.

## PRACTICE

- + In your group or with a few friends, brainstorm what comprehensive shalom looks like in your neighborhood, in your close friends or familial relationships, and at your office. What tangible steps could you take to work for the peace and prosperity in those arenas?
- + Eric mentioned two paths toward renewal: evangelism and neighborhood advocacy. How can you incorporate these two aspects of shalom into your weekly rhythm?
- + Eric stressed the need for us to seek renewal not merely as individuals but as groups and within institutions. How can Third better seek the shalom of Richmond?