

Once Upon a Future 5/4/2025 | Love Our City Reflect + Discuss

- What are some examples of things you love about Madison, or whatever city you are living in?
- Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-20. Read Matthew 28:18-20. What does it mean to be an ambassador? Why does God want us to be ambassadors to our city? How is this calling related to the Great Commission?
- Read Jeremiah 29:1-9. How does God want the people of Israel to live while they are in Babylon? What does it mean to seek the peace and prosperity of the city? Why does God want them to live this way? (Note to leaders: See Jeremiah 29:7.)
- Ambassadors face all kinds of hurdles to sharing the gospel. Chris talked about the "truth" hurdle, the "self" hurdle, the "church hurt" hurdle, and the "wrong side of history" hurdle. How have you experienced obstacles in your city? When we encounter hurdles, how can we stay faithful to our call to love our city?
- Read Ephesians 2:8-10. Why are "good works" so important for ambassadors? How do "good works" lead to "good will" and ultimately to "good news"? Have you experienced these playing out in a relationship in your own life?
- Are there ways you are currently serving in your city? If so, what are you a part of? Are there ways we can serve together as a group and bring shalom, or peace, to our city?

Group Challenge

Consider signing up to serve at Love Madison as a community group.

Pray

Pray that we would grow in understanding our identity as ambassadors of God. Pray that as a church we would be compelled by the love we've received to go and love others, starting in our neighborhoods and in our city. Pray that as we reflect on God's goodness, that we would go out and live on mission in our neighborhood, city, and the world.

Next Steps

Check out the <u>resources page</u> for links to several Bible reading plans and other helpful tools. Explore other opportunities for growth and transformation by checking out <u>courses</u>.