

EXILE

January 19th, 2025

Dave McNeely

Exodus 23:9

Also you shall not oppress a stranger, for you know the heart of a stranger, because you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Leviticus 25:23

The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you reside in my land as foreigners and strangers.

Psalms 39:12

Hear my prayer, Lord,

listen to my cry for help;

do not be deaf to my weeping.

I dwell with you as a foreigner,

a stranger, as all my ancestors were.

1 Peter 2:9-12

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Who are some people (or groups of people) that you would say are experiencing exile in our world today?

In what ways might you say that you have experienced being an exile in your own life?

Consider substituting the word "outsider" for the word "exile." When have you felt like an outsider, felt marginalized, forgotten, ignored, etc.?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE STUDY DISCUSSION GROUP - STARTS TUESDAY

Begins Tuesday, January 21 at 7:00 pm. The first session will take place in our church worship area. We will study I Peter, and our discussions will run concurrently with Dave's winter sermon series. Participants will need a good updated scripture translation and the following resources:

- I and II Peter and Jude for Everyone - Bible Study Guide by N.T. Wright
- New Testament Everyday Bible Study Series by Scot McKnight on I and II Peter and Jude

BLANKETS COLLECTION & DISTRIBUTION

It's that time of year to start collecting blankets so we can give them away when the weather starts to get cold. Take a look for any gently used blankets and keep your eyes open for sales and start bringing them in!

- Blanket distribution sign up on the table

COMMUNITY FOOD BOXES

Sign up for food boxes for this year! Sign up sheet is on the table at the back.

PRAYER

Your church family wants to pray for you. *Send prayer requests to Terri Bradshaw at:*
terri@eklovetwell.org

Sign up for emails at <https://eklovetwell.org/contact>

ONLINE GIVING

<https://paypal.me/eklovetwell>

*PayPal charges a fee of 1.9% + \$.49 on donations given online.