## **Beauty From Ashes**

Week 1 – April 18/19 Scripture: Jeremiah 29:4-14

Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts.

Share: What is your favorite Girl Scout cookie? Did you get any this season?

**Read Jeremiah 29:4-14:** We all long for things to return to the way they used to be, but we are uncertain what that really means. Think about your current environment and set of circumstances. How can you "create home" in the very place you are right now?

Read Jeremiah 29:7: Another way to describe well-being is completeness, wholeness, and total flourishing in all areas (socially, physically, economically, spiritually). That is hard to embrace when we feel everything but this in the current environment. Consider viewing well-being through the lens of service and humility, and not power. Could this change how you seek well-being? How? Share what comes to mind.

Read Jeremiah 29:11: Sometimes we read Scripture like it's a "security blanket" and believe God's plans for us do not come with pain or trials. The truth is that God's plans are good and designed to bring up hope. And not just for here on earth, for eternity! What promises does God give us that provides hope in the middle of a storm? (If you get stumped, just google "God's promises" and see what you find.)

**Prayer:** Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Not sure where to begin? Try finishing each of these sentences:

God, you are... Thank you for... I'm sorry for... Please...

Question for Kids and Families: Read Jeremiah 29:11 out loud. What are some great plans you think God has for you in life? (Parents, try having your kids write them down. And remember to circle back and talk about it throughout the week.)