



A Series to Help with the New Normal

Series Overview

We're not the first people to find ourselves living in a strange land. Wherever we are living, God is working. As disciples of Jesus, how do we learn to live in this land from those who have been here before us? All are looking forward into the new land and finding the blessings where they are planted.

Week 1: Living in the Wilderness | Exodus, Numbers 14:1-25

The journey from captivity to the Promised Land taught a generation to trust in God's faithfulness. Living in the wilderness presents challenges to how we navigate relationships with God, others and ourselves. *The tent of meeting was always the focus in the wilderness.*

Week 2: Living in a Strange Land | Jeremiah 29

Exiled to a foreign land, God's vision of living in this land is beyond what anyone would imagine. Wherever we live, God has wisdom for how to order our daily lives.

Week 3: Living in Isolation | Daniel 6

While Daniel lived in a strange land, he maintained his integrity. Even when pushed to abandon his faith Daniel maintained his daily discipline. When a strange land pressures us to conform we need to maintain our spiritual habits to thrive.

Week 4: Living in Community | Nehemiah 6

You can never go back to the old way of living. When the Exiles returned to Jerusalem, they found a common purpose and a common faith to build a new way of living together in a strange land.

Week 5: Living in New Places | Acts 8:1-8; 11:19-26

Persecution sent the early disciples into new communities. COVID-19 can send the church into new communities where God is already preparing the soil for harvest.

Week 6: Living in a New Kingdom | 1 Peter 2:9-12; Philippians 3:20-21

As disciples of Jesus, we are living in a strange land that is not our final home. How we live daily is a testimony to our journey as foreigners and strangers in this strange land. *The H.S. and Kingdom of God is within us. Music: Where I Belong.*

Bonus Series offered by collaborative works of UMC Clergy in the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

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Rev. Marian Hartman

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