

JEREMIAH 29:1-14
HOPE-FUELED LIVES

Thriving on the Borderland #6

May 17, 2015

1. We live in a hope-challenged world.

TEN CHARACTERISTICS OF SECULAR PEOPLE

- 1) Are essentially ignorant of basic Christianity.
- 2) Are seeking life before death.
- 3) Are conscious of doubt more than guilt.
- 4) Have a negative image of the Church.
- 5) Secular people have multiple alienations.
- 6) Secular people have a hard time trusting.
- 7) Secular people have low self-esteem.

- 8) Secular people experience forces in history as “out of control.”
- 9) Secular people experience forces in personality as “out of control.”
- 10) Secular people cannot find “the door.”

SOURCE: George G. Hunter III, *How To Reach Secular People*, Nashville: Abingdon, 1992, 42-54.

- 2. Hope is founded on our trust in God’s love, wisdom and care (Jeremiah 29:10, 11; Jeremiah 2:11-13; Matthew 6:25-34; Romans 8:28-39; 1 Peter 1:3-7)

- 3. Hope is nurtured by sustaining our spirits in prayer and with God’s Word (Jeremiah 29:12, 11).

- 4. Hope powers our missional witness and engagement with those around us.

- 5. Application: We lead hope-fueled lives by relying on God’s Word and trusting God’s promises in spite of appearances and in spite of our desires.