



**“For I know the plans I have for you,”
declares the LORD,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you HOPE
and a FUTURE.**

**Then you will call upon me
and come and PRAY TO ME,
and I will *listen* to you.**

**You will seek me and find me when you
seek me with *all your heart.*”**

Jeremiah 29:11-13

DBU
REPORT

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For I know the plans...

God moves in mysterious ways through DBU's theme verse

In 1989, DBU adopted Jeremiah 29:11-13 as the theme verses for the University. The verses were chosen for two reasons. The first had to do specifically with DBU. Given the school's financial struggles throughout the early stages of its existence, the verse provided hope that God indeed had plans—wonderful plans—for DBU, plans to prosper the school and allow it to become a center of Christian education for thousands around the world.

The second reason was to provide encouragement to students seeking their educational dreams at DBU. So many times, people take the leap of faith to begin college, not fully knowing what to expect or where they will wind up once they complete their degree. But God knows where they will be, and He will ensure that they get there when they seek His face. Jeremiah 29:11-13 reminds us of this truth. In many of the University publications and in locations around campus, DBU displays these verses so that students will be reminded of the need to seek God's guidance and direction, both for their education now and their callings in the future.

Over the years, DBU has had many students find hope in Jeremiah 29:11-13. Below are just a few of these many stories.

For most of my life, things had gone pretty smooth. However, about seven years ago, the Lord began to walk me through a very trying time, as the man I had been married to for almost ten years decided to abandon everything in his life, including me. In the midst of this, I went to see a doctor for a minor health concern, and he asked me about my life. I responded by sharing with him all of the trials that sat at my door. He then pulled out his prescription pad, jotted something down, and told me, "Take this; it will help." After I left, I opened the prescription only to find the words, "Jer. 29:11." As soon as I got to my Bible, I opened it up and read those amazing words, and it became my life verse.

Months later, I felt led to go back to school and complete my degree, a degree I had put off in order to be married. After planning to go to a different university, I heard about DBU and visited the campus for an information session. Just as soon as the session began, the leader showed a video presentation, and up on the screen came the verses, Jeremiah 29:11-13. I began to weep and knew that God had lined everything up for me to be at DBU and would keep His hand on me regardless of any trial that came my way, and that is what He did.

-Amy Jones, DBU alumna

I would like to share how incredible it was to work with Amy Jones as she was trying to discern God's will for her life and how her testimony has changed the way that I serve here at DBU.

I was one of the ones who initially worked with Amy when she decided to come to DBU. After speaking with her on the phone and finding out what her educational goals were, we encouraged her to come to campus so that she could see the school. So she came for an information session that I was conducting. As the words of Jeremiah 29:11-13, "For I know the plans I have for you..." appeared on the screen, she broke down in tears at how God was working.

Praying with Amy through this powerful time in her life has changed the way that I view my own role in the lives of adult students. Although I may be a broken vessel, God still chooses to share His message of hope with others—not through me, but through His own Word.

Through Jeremiah 29:11-13, He spoke to Amy in a dramatic way that day, and through her life-changing experience, He spoke to me as well. It spoke to me of God's redemptive love for His children. It spoke to me of the power of God's Word to change lives.

-Dr. Donovan Fredricksen, dean,
DBU College of Adult Education

A few years back, a student came for one of our Patriot Weekends. Her parents wanted her to attend DBU, but she had her heart set on another institution. Before she came to campus, she prayed and told God that if He wanted her to come to school at DBU, then three different people would have to share her three life verses.

The very first person that they met on campus shared with them Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." This was one of her life verses.

Later that day, a student guide was giving them a tour of DBU and shared Philippians 4:6, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." This was her second life verse.

By now, she knew something was going on, and that is when she sat at my table for lunch. She was a biology major, and as we talked, I told them about our theme verse and the plans that God had for her life. I was startled when she began to cry. That was the third verse.

So she applied, came to DBU, graduated, and was very happy to be here! Praise God!

-Dr. Deanna Noyes, DBU associate