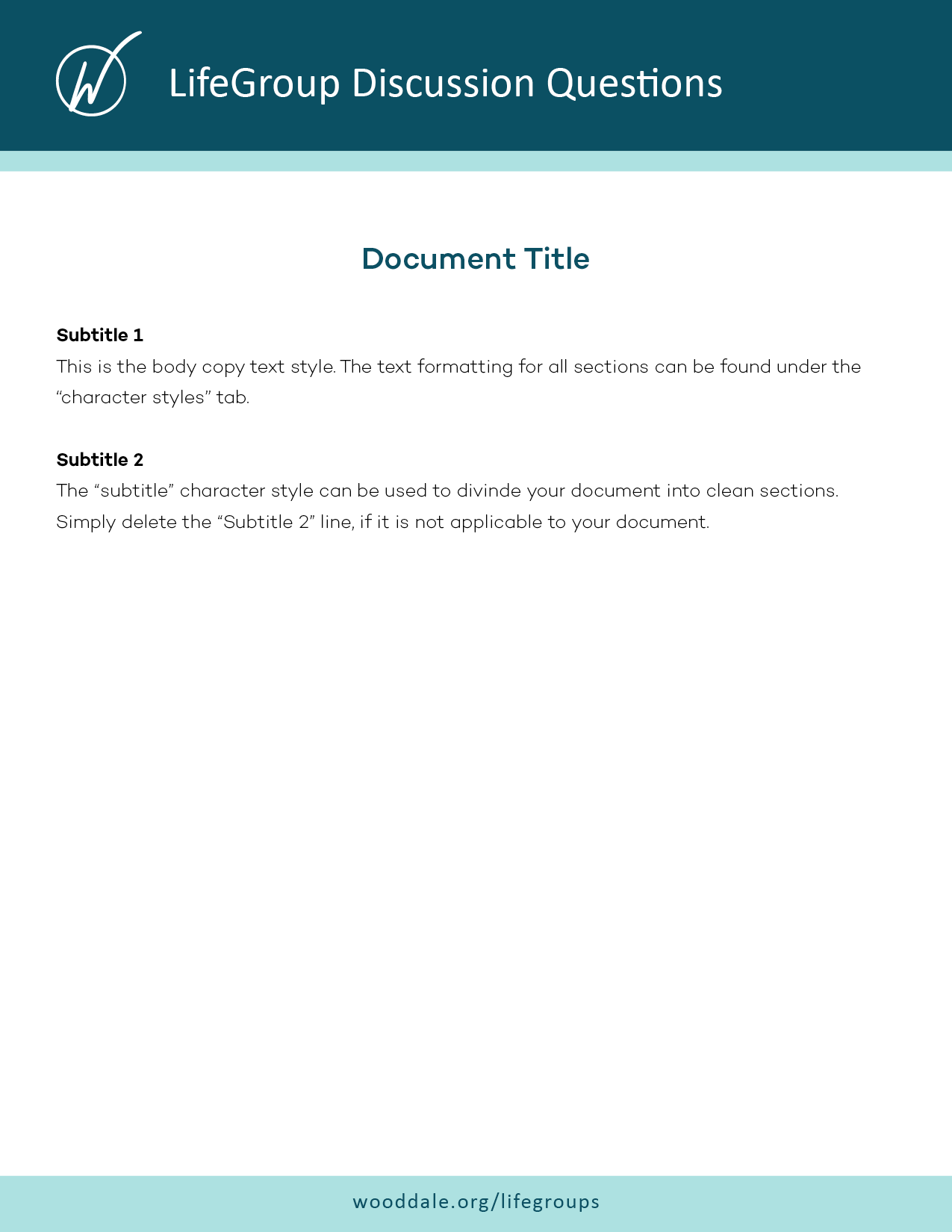
**Prosper | July 18, 2021**

**Summary**

God has called us to Babylon to bring peace and prosperity to those far from God.

**Scripture**

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” -Jeremiah 29:4-7 (NIV)

This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. 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 on 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. I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.” -Jeremiah 29:10-14 (NIV)

**Let’s Start**

What do you find notable about Jeremiah’s words to the Jews in Babylon?

**Gratitude and Prayer**

What happened this past week that you are grateful for? What would you like to pray for today? How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

**Let’s Talk**

1. How can we prosper in Babylon?
2. How are you growing? What are you doing to help others grow in their Babylon?
3. How can we help Babylon prosper?
4. Have you seen God bring good out of bad situations, as the Jews experienced in Jeremiah 29:10-14?
5. How would you rate your “blending in” vs. “standing out” in Babylon?
6. What could it look like for you to “tell a better way” with some of your interactions in Babylon? What could it look like for you to “show a better way” in your place in Babylon?

**Let’s Act**

What are some of the needs in the community you could help to meet? What is something your group can do to help your community prosper?

**Notes**