
AMOS 3:1-4

RECAP

Think back to a few weeks ago when we started Amos. We looked our identity in Christ and our relationship with Him. We looked at how despite Israel looking great from the outside their worship wasn't pleasing to God; their religion had become routine and their faith was dead. At the end we did a reflection where we focused on things you are doing that help your relationship with God and other things you could try do in the next week to spend more time getting to know God. Have a think about what you wrote down and answer the questions below:

ACTIVITY 1

How did you get on?

What did you learn about God?

Is there something new you could try this week?

TIME OUT

Take a minute and text someone from Youth Church or a friend/family member and tell them how you have seen God work in your life this week.

Ask them where they saw God and chat to each other about other things that you could both do together this week to help deepen your relationship with God.

Redemption

The action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil.

AMOS 3:1-4

3 Hear this word, people of Israel, the word the Lord has spoken against you—against the whole family I brought up out of Egypt:

2 “You only have I chosen
of all the families of the earth;
therefore I will punish you
for all your sins.”

3 Do two walk together
unless they have agreed to do so?

4 Does a lion roar in the thicket
when it has no prey?

Does it growl in its den
when it has caught nothing?

**Take 10 minutes to read over this passage
(more than once!) and...**

Highlight anything that stands out to you and why

**Circle
what
surprises
you**

Star anything you
don't understand*

**Underline any
repeated words**

Write what you think it might mean and
how it applies to our lives today...



SOME THOUGHTS...

This passage opens by addressing the receiver of these messages as the 'whole family'. This explains to us that God is speaking to all the twelve tribes of Israel who God brought to the Promised Land out of Egypt. In the Old Testament, the central act of redemption was Israel's exodus from Egypt; all through it God called Israel to look back and remember the one who freed them. Then, we see in the New Testament God's plan of redemption is the work of Jesus on the cross, and in the same way we are called to constantly remember what Jesus has done for us.

The main issue is that the Israelites were not thankful for the fact God had done this for them. They knew God and yet turned from him to worship false gods. Their unfaithfulness to Him had not been overlooked, God still loves His people but hates sin. Now, the false gods of their time would look very different to the false gods this world worship. For us today false gods may include, money, popularity, celebrities or anything that distracts us from our relationship with God. What do you think distracts you from your relationship with God?

Distractions...

The agreement God had made with the Israelites was that He would bless them as long as they were obedient to Him. He also promised to curse them, if they turned from Him and did not obey His voice. The best way to think about this is a parent/child relationship; parents love their children and want what's best for them, but parents also discipline their children when they do something wrong. In the same way, we are children of God. We can't remove the relationship no matter how much we sin. When Israel wasn't listening to God, they were still His chosen people, they just didn't get to enjoy His blessings. Instead, God had to discipline them.

We have a tendency to want to earn God's blessings and we think we deserve God's blessings. But we do not earn God's blessings by being good, we have these blessing because Jesus paid for our sins on the cross.

PRAYER DIARY

We have been discussing how the people of Israel got stuck in routine rather than having a relationship with God. It can be very easy for our faith to become routine, but one way in which we can deepen our relationship with God is through prayer and getting to know Him. Below is a Prayer Diary. This week we want to challenge you to write one thing in each box on the next page, it's an ACTS Prayer Diary so each letter represents a different type of prayer:

A- adoration: what do you praise God for today?

C- confession: what are you sorry for today?

T- thankfulness: what are you thankful to God for today?

S- supplication: Is there anything you need from God? (Eg: help with a situation or guidance on something you're dealing with.)

PRAYER DIARY

WE HAVE BEEN TALKING
ABOUT OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH
GOD AND ONE WAY TO
DEEPEN THAT IS
THROUGH PRAYER!

Use the boxes below to write out your prayers this week, writing them down can help you focus on God and lets you look back on how He has been working in your life.

I PRAISE GOD FOR...

I'M SORRY FOR...

ADORATION

CONFESSION

I'M THANKFUL FOR....

I ASK GOD FOR...

THANKSGIVING

SUPPLICATION