YOUTH CHURCH

SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY

We're going to start off a wee bit different this morning, I would love you to go grab your bible, a piece of paper and a pen. We're going to be reading from Psalm 4. Take a few minutes and read Psalm 4!

YOU CAN WRITE THEM HERE:



ACTIVITY 1:

In this Psalm, David is reminding us that the only way we can experience true peace is through God himself, that God alone is the true source of joy and peace and through Him we can 'dwell in safety.' I want you guys to take a few minutes and write down things you might be worried about, whether that be missing out on school, missing your friends and family or just missing being able to go out.

Whatever it is write it down and spend some time in prayer and giving all your worries or concerns to God.

'IN PEACE I WILL LIE DOWN AND SLEEP,
FOR YOU ALONE, LORD,
MAKE ME DWELL IN SAFETY.'
(PSALM 4:8)



Locusts, Fire and a Plumb Line

7 This is what the Sovereign Lord showed me: He was preparing swarms of locusts after the king's share had been harvested and just as the late crops were coming up. 2 When they had stripped the land clean, I cried out, "Sovereign Lord, forgive! How can Jacob survive? He is so small!" 3 So the Lord relented "This will not happen," the Lord said.

4 This is what the Sovereign Lord showed me: The Sovereign Lord was calling for judgment by fire; it dried up the great deep and devoured the land. 5 Then I cried out, "Sovereign Lord, I beg you, stop! How can Jacob survive? He is so small!" 6 So the Lord relented. "This will not happen either," the Sovereign Lord said.

7 This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. 8 And the Lord asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer. 9 "The high places of Isaac will be destroyed and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined;

with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam."

Amos and Amaziah

10 Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: "Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. 11 For this is what Amos is saying:

"'Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.'

"12 Then Amaziah said to Amos, "Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. 13 Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king's sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom."

14 Amos answered Amaziah, "I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. 15 But the Lord took me from tending the flock and said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' 16 Now then, hear the word of the Lord.

You say, "Do not prophesy against Israel,

and stop preaching against the descendants of Isaac.'

17 "Therefore this is what the Lord says:"Your wife will become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and daughters will fall by the sword.

Your land will be measured and divided up, and you yourself will die in a pagan country.

And Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land."

Highlight anything that stands out to you and why
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...

ACTIVITY 2:



SOME THOUGHTS...

SO FAR IN AMOS HE HAS NARRATED FIVE VISIONS HE HAS RECEIVED FROM THE LORD. IN THE START OF THIS CHAPTER WE READ THAT GOD PLANS HOW HE IS GOING TO PUNISH ISRAEL, BUT AMOS INTERCEDES AND IT SEEMS AS THOUGH GOD CHANGES HIS MIND, THIS HAPPENS MULTIPLE TIMES. BUT THEN THE THIRD AND FOURTH CLAIM IS THAT OF INESCAPABLE JUDGEMENT. THIS FIRST TWO VISIONS SHOW THE POWER OF PRAYER AND GOD'S MERCIFUL NATURE WHO IS WILLING TO FORGIVE ISRAEL, NOT BECAUSE THEY DESERVE IT, BUT BECAUSE OF GOD'S FORGIVING NATURE. LATER ON IN THE PASSAGE, WE SEE THAT IF ISRAEL DO NOT REPENT AND TURN FROM THEIR WAYS. THERE IS NOTHING MORE THAT CAN BE DONE.

ONE THING YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED WHILE READING THE PASSAGE FOR YOUSELF WAS THE REPETITION OF 'SOVEREIGN LORD.' THE WORD SOVEREIGN SIMPLY MEANS TO BE IN CONTROL. GOD IS SOVEREIGN OVER EVERY SITUATION. THIS IS COMFORTING FOR THE SITUATION WE ARE IN NOW, THE PANDEMIC HAS REMINDED US WE ARE NOT IN CONTROL BUT GOD IS, AND JUST LIKE THE PSALM FROM EALIER SAYS 'IN PEACE I WILL LIE DOWN AND SLEEP. FOR YOU ALONE. LORD. MAKE ME DWELL IN SAFETY.'

ACTIVITY 3: CLICK TO WATCH



