

Worship Discussion and Reflection Questions

Sermon Series: Ancient Voices for Unsettled Times

Sermon: Amos: The Danger of Saying "God is With Us!"

Scripture: Amos 5:14-15; 21-24

¹⁴Seek good, and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,
as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil, and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

²¹“I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Reflection Questions:

- In what ways might people call on the name of God, but it not align with who God is? In what ways might you be tempted to do that?
- Why does God reject their worship? Would it have mattered if they were genuine/authentic in their worship?
- What does it mean to let justice roll like water and righteousness flow like a stream? What could that look like in your life?
- How does the hope of Amos 9:11-12 point to Jesus?

Guided Prayer:

Praise God for revealing Himself and His ways through His Word. Ask God to help you to align yourself to Him rather than asking Him to align to you. Repent of the ways you have strayed from God or His ways. Ask Him to reveal those areas where you need to repent. Thank God for showing you grace in Jesus. Commit to goodness and living according to His ways. Commit to righteousness and justice. Ask Jesus to help you to live according to His ways out of gratitude for what Christ has already done for you in Him. In Jesus' name, Amen.