

Series: Roar, a study in Amos
Sermon: Neglecting Responsibility
Primary Text: Amos 1-2

Discussion guide:

- In your own words, define complacency.
- It has been said that complacency is the opposite of love. Is this true? Why or why not?
- Read Amos 1:1.
 - What is Amos profession?
 - Why is this significant.
 - Read Ephesians 4:11-12.
 - According to this text what is the purpose of leaders in the church?
 - Rocklane's 6th core value is "Every Christian is a Minister."
 - Why is this important?
 - What is the negative sideeffects of not realizing this?
- In the sermon it was established that Amos is speaking to northern Israel during a time of extreme prosperity.
 - Bill Gates put it this way, "Success is a lousy teacher. It seduces smart people into thinking they can't lose."
 - Eleanor Roosevelt said, "More people are ruined by victory, I imagine, than by defeat."
 - Why does success breed complacency?
 - How does this happen in our everyday lives?
 - How can we know if we are growing complacent personally?
 - What can do about it?
- Read Amos 1:2.
 - What does it mean "The Lord roars from Zion"?
 - What is Amos' point?
- Read Amos 1:3-5. This is Amos' model for the next several verses. He is announcing punishment on countries surrounding Israel. In 2:6 he calls out Israel. Israel would have been shocked by this.
 - Why would Israel be surprised by this?
 - One commentator said, "Instead of controlling God, the opening speeches of Amos reveal that God controls all."
 - How do we "control God" (or think we are)?
 - Under what circumstances do we start to think or act this way?
- Read Amos 2:6-7a.
 - Why is the poor so important to God?
 - On commentator said, "Our faith is measured by how we relate to the poor and oppressed."
 - Why/how is this true?
 - How does complacency affect the churches dealing with the poor?
- Read Amos 2:7b-8.
 - Why do some people think some rules don't apply to them?

- Read Amos 2:9-11
 - What is God's point here?
 - Why don't people evaluate their spiritual health?
 - How should people evaluate their spiritual health?