

# Discussion Questions

Date: January 4, 2026

Preacher: Josh Ratliff

## Sermon Outline

## Talking Points

### *The Complacent and the Proud | Amos 6:1-14*

#### **God pronounces judgment upon the complacent (Amos 6:1-7)**

- The Israelites trusted in their physical security. (vv.1-3)
- The lavish luxury distracted the Israelites from spiritual concerns. (vv.4-7)
- **Question:** What distracts you in life? Is physical comfort causing you to neglect spiritual health?

#### **God pronounces judgment upon the proud (Amos 6:8-14)**

- The prideful will be humbled on the "Day of the Lord." (vv. 8-11)
- God brings exile to remove the delusion of pride from Israel. (vv. 12-14)
- **Question:** What would God have to remove from you for you to remember that He is the provider of everything that is good?

**Bottom Line: God is not willing to allow his people to stray forever due to distractions and pride.**

\* What does it look like to be "at ease" and "secure" the way Amos describes? Where do you see parallels of this in our culture today?

\* How can comfort or stability dull your sensitivity to sin or spiritual danger?

\* What are some common distractions or possessions in your life that easily pull you away from prayer, reading scripture, or fellowship with other believers?

\* How can we handle or address the numbness or spiritual callousness that comes from not being attentive to our spiritual needs found in Jesus? How do you find brokenness in your sin when you are having trouble feeling anything at all?

\* Why do you think God "abhors the pride of Jacob"? What is so dangerous about the sin of pride? What is your typical response when pride is pointed out in your life?

\* If God were to strip something away from you, something you rely on for security or comfort, what would be the hardest for you to lose? Why?

\* Where do you need to give credit, glory, and your thankfulness for something God has done in your life?

## Understanding Scripture

### 1. Read the passage aloud.

- Question: How would the original audience have understood this passage?
- Question: What was God's desire for them?

### 2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.

- Question: What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
- Question: What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?

### 3. Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.

- Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
- Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
- If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.

### 4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen in Amos...")

- Question: What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
- Question: How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

## Prayer Requests

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