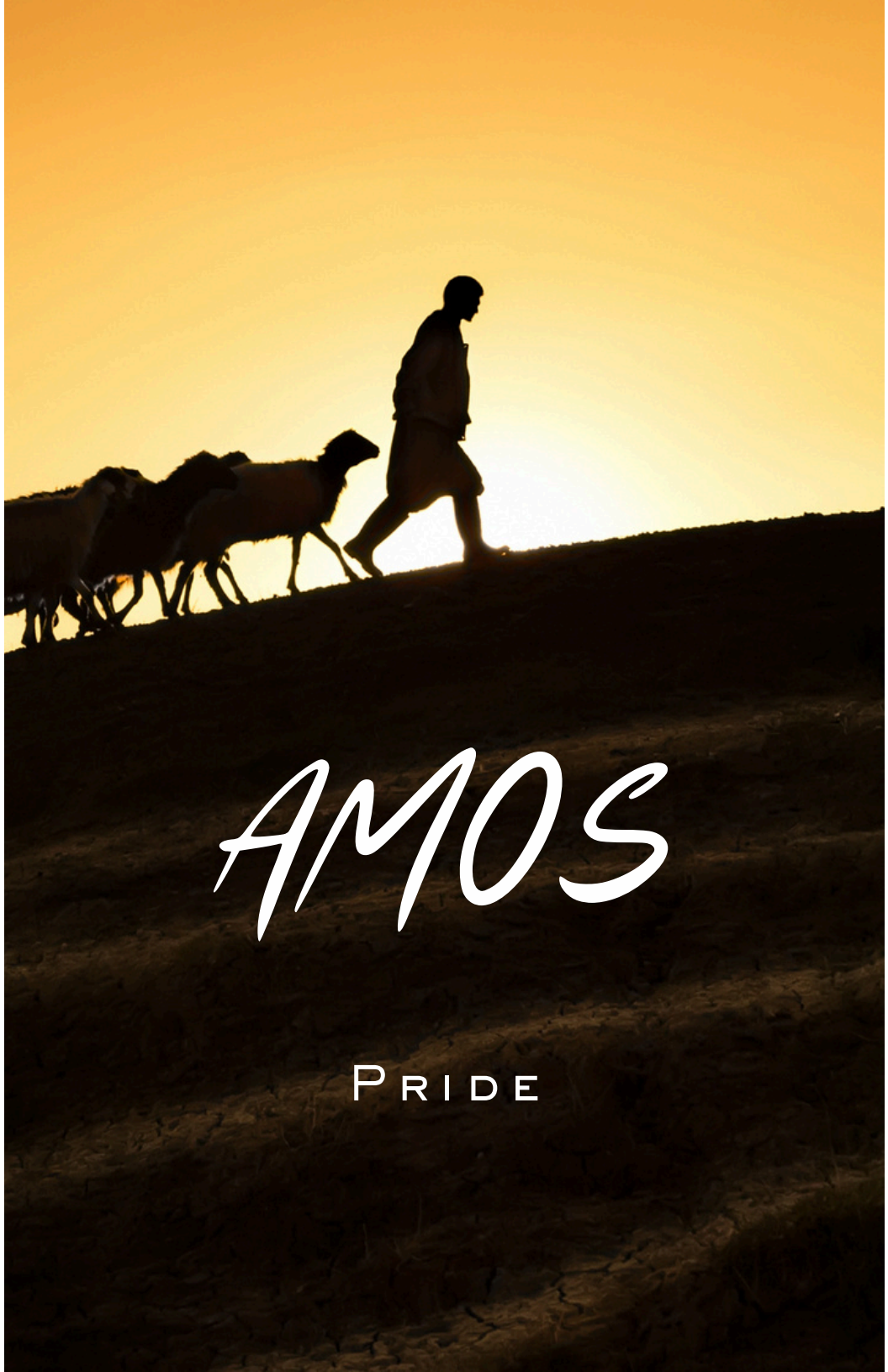


A silhouette of a shepherd walking across a field with a flock of sheep, set against a bright, hazy sunset sky. The scene is captured in a high-contrast, low-key style, emphasizing the shapes of the figures against the glowing light.

AMOS

PRIDE

Know

Amos

- Israel's success had fueled their pride. Their worship and accomplishments increasingly pointed to themselves instead of God.
- Throughout these chapters, God repeatedly calls Israel to seek Him and live (Amos 5:4, 6, 14–15), but their pride keeps them from recognizing their need to change.

Daniel 4

- God allowed Nebuchadnezzar to conquer Jerusalem and carry many of God's people into exile in Babylon (Daniel 1:1–2).
- Nebuchadnezzar built a massive golden image and commanded everyone to bow down to it. When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused, he threw them into a furnace and then witnessed God miraculously rescue them (Daniel 3).
- God warned Nebuchadnezzar through a dream that his kingdom would be taken from him until he recognized that God rules over earthly kingdoms. Daniel urged him to turn from his sins, but twelve months passed before the events in this reading (Daniel 4:24–29).

Read

Daniel 4:28-34, 37

²⁸ All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁹ Twelve months later, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?"

³¹ Even as the words were on his lips, a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you. ³² You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like the ox. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and gives them to anyone he wishes."

³³ Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.

³⁴ At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever. His dominion is an eternal dominion;
his kingdom endures from generation to generation.

³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

Ask

- Nebuchadnezzar had already seen God reveal dreams, rescue Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from the furnace, and accomplish things no human could do. Why do you think he could acknowledge God's greatness and still become consumed with his own? Can someone genuinely believe God is great while still living like they don't need Him?
- Athletes, musicians, actors, influencers, and other successful people are often expected to promote themselves and build a personal "brand." Can someone pursue recognition and success without becoming prideful? Where would you draw the line between healthy confidence and needing people to notice you?
- Nebuchadnezzar looked at Babylon and took credit for what he had accomplished, saying it was built "by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty" (Daniel 4:30). How can we celebrate our own accomplishments without making them about our own greatness? How does acknowledging God's role in our abilities, opportunities, and success change the way we view ourselves and recognize how God has allowed us to accomplish?
- Repentance requires admitting "I was wrong and I need to change," while pride often pushes us to protect the way we see ourselves or the way others see us. How can pride make repentance difficult? Can protecting our reputation, being right, an identity we've built for ourselves, or our image as a "good Christian" keep us from genuinely repenting and changing?
- One of the greatest threats to our relationship with God is our service to God. In Amos 4-5 the people were performing the right songs, events, and offerings, but their hearts were far from God. How can you defend your relationship with God from your service to God?

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal blue or grey lines across its entire width, typical of notebook paper. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.

Prayer Requests

Gospel Sharing Tool

1. Ask Permission

"Can I ask you a spiritual question?"

2. Ask Two Questions

- "What do you think happens after we die?"
- "If God asked, 'Why should I let you into heaven?' what would you say?"

3. Listen

Listen carefully and repeat back what you heard to make sure you understand.

4. Share the Gospel

Use this simple outline:

- God – God loves us and created us to know Him.
- Us – We have all sinned and are separated from God.
- Jesus – Jesus died and rose again to pay for our sins.
- Response – We must repent and trust Jesus as Lord and Savior.

5. Invite

"Where are you at with Jesus?"

6. Follow Up

"Would you like to read the Bible or talk more about this sometime?"

7. Pray

"Can I pray for you or pray with you?"



Sundays
9 AM, *Netcong*
10 AM, *Randolph*
11:15 AM, *Netcong*

Wednesdays
7 PM, *Netcong*

@the_gardenym
grace4families.com/youth