

9-23-24

**Amos 5:11-15, 21-24**

<sup>11</sup>Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. <sup>12</sup>For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. <sup>13</sup>Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. <sup>14</sup>Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. <sup>15</sup>Hate 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.

<sup>21</sup>I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

- 1.) What is the connection between justice and our understanding of who God is?
- 2.) Is there a place for irony and ambiguity in your faith life?
- 3.) What are the ways in which you seek God?