

Dig Deeper @Home – “Planted (not buried)”

Complement to sermon on 6/02/2019 – “A Call for Justice”

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. As a child, what places were you told not to go? Why were they off limit? Did you secretly go anyway?
2. When did you feel most “alive” this week?

MEMORIZE – Amos 9:15

I will plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted out of the land that I have given them,” says the LORD your God.

READ – Read Amos 5

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
3. In verse 4, God says to the people, *“seek me and live; but do not seek Bethel, and do not enter Gilgal or cross over to Beersheba.”* Ironically, these places were once associated with God doing great things. Read Genesis 28:11-19, 35:1-7; Joshua 5:9; Genesis 21:22-32, 26:23-25 and take note of the great things God had done at these places. Why are the people being told now not to go there?
4. In vss. 18-20 the “day of the Lord” is mentioned. Read Isaiah 2:11,17,20 to see what the prophet Isaiah says about the coming “day of the Lord.” Why were the people of Israel desiring the day of the Lord? Why was God saying the day would be “darkness”? What did God have against them? (vvs. 21-24)
5. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and 1 Peter 3:8-10 to see how the day of the Lord is already quietly underway through Jesus Christ though not yet in its completed form. What do these verses challenge us to do as we follow Jesus Christ as Lord?

Experiential: The “Day of the Lord” – Genesis to Revelation

What is the day of the Lord? When most people use the phrase "the day of the Lord," they use it to refer to the end of times, when Jesus returns at Armageddon to bring justice to the world and defeat evil once and for all. A lot of these images come from the very end of the Bible in Revelation, but to really understand them, we have to go back to the beginning of the Bible in Genesis. Take some time to go online to the Bible Project and listen to the story from the beginning to the end of the meaning of the “day of the Lord”. <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/day-lord/>

Discuss: What is something new you understood about “the day of the Lord”? How should we live in light of the coming “day of the Lord”?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Days of Elijah- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ca9LnzJnpjQ>

Breathe on me, breath of God - Mennonite Hymnal #216

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Holy God, we confess how easy it is for us to worship You without allowing that experience to transform our lives. Help us, God of justice, to worship you in every way that You deserve – in joyful praise and in acts of love, by proclaiming your greatness and by serving the needy as though we were serving You. In our lives, may your justice roll down like waters, and your righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. In Jesus Name, Amen.