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**Date:** October 22, 2023    **Message:** Our Impartial God

**Series:** God Speaks    **Scripture:** Amos (select verses)

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Truth #1: \_\_\_\_\_ (1:3-2:5)

Truth #2: \_\_\_\_\_ (2:6-16)

Truth #3: \_\_\_\_\_ (9:7-15)

### Questions for Reflection and Discussion

Amos (select verses)

1. Why might God have chosen a shepherd and a fig tree farmer from Judah to serve as a prophet to Israel, even though Amos himself said that he was neither trained as a prophet nor interested in seeking the office of a prophet (Amos 7:14)?
2. Why do you think it is significant that Amos keeps repeating the phrase "for three sins...even for four" in chapters 1 and 2? What does this say about God's patience as well as His judgment?
3. If Israel was the primary recipient/focus of these prophecies, then why might God also pronounce judgment on the other nations listed from 1:3-2:16? What might this say about how Israel's sin compared to that of its pagan neighbors?
4. As you consider the specific sins of the various nations listed in chapters 1-2, does similar activity take place today? Why do you think God does not bring His obvious judgment on nations today?
5. Why did God choose Israel to be His special possession (3:2)? Why does God discipline those whom He has chosen as His own? Is God's judgment against His followers any different from His judgment against those who reject Him? Why or why not?
6. One of the expressions of evil that is specifically mentioned about Israel in Amos is their worship practices. Why did God reject their worship? How are our worship practices today in danger of becoming transgressions? What does God truly desire from His people?
7. Despite the sobering message of Amos, why is there still hope for us? What evidence do we see in Amos that can help us to *know* with confidence that there is hope and that God has not given up on us?