

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, September 21, 2025 (Pentecost 15)

Amos 8:4-7 ** READ 8:1-7 FOR A BETTER CONTEXT

Discussion Starters

1. What is the purpose of the illustration of ripe fruit? (Note that this is "over-ripe" fruit!) What does this say about the condition Israel was in?
2. What was the New Moon festival? What was the attitude of the people of Israel toward it? Why did they have that attitude?
3. What sins is Amos addressing in this passage?
4. Notice verse 7 where God promises "I will never forget."
5. What is the "Pride" of Jacob? Why does God swear by the Pride?
6. How does this passage apply to our culture today? To your own life?

1 Timothy 2:1-15

Discussion Starters

1. For whom does Paul request prayers? Have you ever felt as if someone was "too bad" to merit your prayers? How would Paul respond to this attitude?
2. What appears to be happening in the worship service at this church? How does Paul direct Timothy to correct it? Do you think these verses were meant for every church for all time or just for this particular church at that particular time?
3. What other verses of Scripture point to the role of women in worship?
4. If you were to read these verses as a teaching on proper attitudes in worship, what insights do you gain?
5. Is there a distinction between "requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving" that Paul says should be made for everyone? If so, what is the distinction?
6. Describe an appropriate prayer for those in authority (v. 2).

Luke 16:1-15

Discussion Starters

1. Why would it be important for the disciples of Jesus to hear this parable?
2. In what predicament does the manager find himself? What plan does he devise to get out of it?
3. Why does the owner commend the manager?
4. How does Jesus summarize the teaching of this parable? What is He communicating?
5. Why is it impossible to serve two masters?
6. How do people become a servant to money? What are some examples and causes?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?