GENESIS TO REVELATION | PROPHETIC LESSON

Let Justice Flow Like Water

Amos 5:14-15,21-24



YOUR BIBLE READING

God calls for worship joined with steady, practical justice.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

Goodness Where Decisions Are Made



Amos 5:14-15,21-24

Amos brought a prophetic message to Israel. A prophet speaks God's word to people, including words that challenge their choices. In these verses, Amos calls them to seek what is good and turn away from evil. The people spoke as though God was with them. Amos called them to make that claim visible in their conduct. Saying the right thing about God was connected with doing what was right toward other people.

The message speaks of loving good and hating evil. This is a call to oppose harmful actions, rather than to choose people to despise. Amos also names a particular place where goodness must become real: the courts, where decisions about disputes were made. Justice there meant more than a pleasant feeling. People needed fair judgments, especially when a decision affected their security, property, family, or ability to live without being mistreated.

Think about what it means to be heard fairly. The person with the loudest voice should not automatically win. A gift or an important friend should not decide whose account is believed. These are ways to understand justice today, not additional events reported by Amos. The prophet's call points toward decisions shaped by truth and right conduct. Loving goodness has consequences wherever people have power to settle another person's complaint.

Amos speaks seriously about the people's need to change and about the possibility of God's mercy. His words do not offer a clever performance that makes wrongdoing harmless. They call for a different direction. Seeking good is active: it asks where unfairness has been allowed and what should be put right. The prophetic message begins with the choices people make, then turns toward the worship through which they claimed to honor God.

Remember: Fair treatment should keep flowing through our shared life.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

More Than Beautiful Songs

Amos 5:14-15,21-24



God's message through Amos rejects the people's religious festivals and offerings. Even their music and harps are described as noise that will not be welcomed. The words are strong because the problem is serious. Worship cannot cover up injustice as though a lovely sound makes unfair conduct disappear. The lesson is not that music is always bad. It is that songs and ceremonies cannot take the place of a life that treats neighbors rightly.

Amos then gives a powerful picture: justice flowing like rivers and righteousness like a strong, continuing stream. Water moves beyond one small spot. A stream reaches along its course rather than appearing as a single shining drop. In the prophet's picture, justice is to become a living, lasting reality in the community. It belongs in the people's shared life, not only in words they speak when gathered for a religious celebration.

For a present-day example, imagine a group singing about kindness, then refusing to let one child take a fair turn. The song's words and the group's actions pull in different directions. Putting things right would mean changing the turn-taking, hearing the child, and repairing the exclusion. This example helps us understand Amos' challenge. An expression of love should lead toward conduct that gives another person a fair place, rather than simply sounding admirable.

Justice can also require people with responsibility to change an unfair arrangement. It is not only a task for the person who has been hurt. Amos addresses the community and its decisions, calling for goodness where power is used. The water picture gives the reading its hopeful direction: fairness need not remain a rare exception. As people seek good, truthful and just treatment should be allowed to reach the places where their neighbors actually need it.

Pause and think: Where could your group change an arrangement so fairness reaches someone who has been overlooked?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Let Fairness Reach the Whole Group



Look at one ordinary arrangement in a group you know. Who gets a turn, whose ideas are heard, and who may have difficulty joining? You do not need to accuse everyone before asking a useful question. With a trusted adult, you can notice whether the arrangement works fairly. Justice often begins by listening to someone whose experience has been easy for the rest of the group to miss.

Amos connects worship with conduct. A prayer about kindness can be followed by a kind action. A song about love can lead to making room for another person. These actions do not buy God's favor or turn worship into a points competition. They help our words and choices belong together. We can ask whether what we celebrate is also becoming visible in the way we treat people.

The flowing-water picture suggests something steady. One fair decision matters, and so does the next one. If a game repeatedly excludes someone, repairing the rule may help more than offering one special turn. Fairness can become part of the normal way a community works. That is a concrete way to think about justice reaching farther than a single kind moment.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Worship and everyday conduct belong together when justice becomes a steady part of community life.

Where could your group change an arrangement so fairness reaches someone who has been overlooked?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. Where did Amos call the people to establish justice?

2. What does flowing water picture in this lesson?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Let justice become steady, like flowing water.
- ☐ Seek good and make fair decisions.
- ☐ Recognize that worship cannot cover injustice.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw a flowing stream with fair actions written on stepping stones beside it.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

Fair treatment should keep flowing through our shared life.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Amos 5:14-15,24

A thoughtful conversation

These prophetic verses challenge worship separated from justice. The water is a picture of continuing righteousness, not a literal flood event. Explore a fair household or classroom arrangement with your child. Avoid making children responsible for correcting every injustice; adults should model fair decisions and help address harm when it occurs.

Activity answers

1. In the courts, where decisions affecting people were made.
2. Justice and right conduct becoming steady realities in the community.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 1, 2. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, help our worship and our choices grow together in justice and care. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Amos 5:14-15,21-24. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration: original symbolic vector artwork by DigiPick.store; a learning aid, not an additional Bible event.
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