

Title: Missing the Mission  
Passage: Amos 4:1-13; 6:1-14  
May 25, 2014

#### Overview:

As we move deeper into the book of Amos we see the prophet going deeper into the specifics of the sins of Israel. In this week's message we will focus on his calling out the lifestyles of the women (ch. 4) and then the men (ch. 6). His scathing rebuke focuses on their selfishness, materialism, and their callous disregard for the needs of others. They indulge themselves in these lifestyles of luxury while still maintaining a façade of religious piety. Despite numerous warnings and acts of discipline the people of Israel turn a deaf ear to the word of the Lord and now face impending judgment.

#### Engaging with each other

1. If you could spend a day with a pop culture celebrity who would it be and why? What would you like to talk to them about?

#### Engaging with the Bible

1. In Amos 4:1 our prophet uses a sarcastic remark to describe the lifestyles of the rich women of Israel. The cows of Bashan were considered to be the best of cows in the land. How would you put this description in your own words?
2. In verses 4-5 he describes their religious practices. What do you think his point is?
3. In verses 7-11 there is a series of descriptions of the ways God has sought to get their attention. What is the importance of this review and how does they set up the final pronouncement of verses 12-13?
4. Why is the admonition to "prepare to meet your God" so ominous?
5. In Amos 6:1-7 the prophet addresses the men of Israel. How does he describe them?
6. In verses 8-14 the Lord again declares his intention to bring judgment on the nation. In verse 8 and in verse 12-13 he gives some specific things that the men of Israel are guilty of. What are they and why do you think these are so grievous to the Lord?

#### Engaging with our lives

1. What are some of the things in our society that tempt us toward lifestyles that compromise our walk with God and our mission for God?
2. If we are to live as lights in our dark world what lifestyles might demonstrate the power and reality of God's kingdom?
3. What are some things you might need to change in your life in order to live out the gospel more authentically?