

NOTES: Uncharacteristic Callings

Amos 7:14-15, Jeremiah 1:5, Ezekiel 3:14

Amos and the Prophets

1. Where did most prophets preach their messages? _____

2. Israel was divided into two kingdoms in Amos' day. Amos lived in the south, but preached in the north. Why was this controversial? _____

3. Most prophets got food, housing, and money from the people they preached to—if they liked their message. How did Amos get food, housing, and money to survive? _____

4. Why did it benefit Amos to be 'No Prophet,' not be a part of a guild, and not need to raise money from the people he preaches to? _____

Mission

1. C _____ kills m _____.
2. Most churches have to choose between funding P _____ for Christians or M _____ to people who don't follow Jesus.
3. D _____ generates m _____.

Christian Service

1. When God calls you to serve him, he will _____ you for that service.
2. _____ is called to mission.
3. Mission is a _____ ministry not a message of judgment.

Prayer

1. Jeremiah made excuses for why he couldn't do what God wanted him to do. What excuses do you have? What legitimate reasons do you have? Confess your excuses to God. Discuss your legitimate reasons. Ask God for resource and empowerment to do all he has called you to. _____

2. Ezekiel was angry that God called him. Have you ever been angry about God's calling and purpose for you? Confess any anger or frustration. Thank him that he has called you to beautiful and royal purposes. Ask God to make you joyful as you serve him in our community. _____

3. Jonah ran from God when he was called to go to Nineveh because he hated the Ninevites. *How do you feel about unbelievers? Are you compassionate and merciful? Do you dislike them? Do you want to avoid them? Do you run from them?* Confess and repent before God and thank him that you still have work to do for his purposes. _____

4. *Have you ever said "I am not a preacher," or "I am not a professional minister?" Have you ever used that as an excuse not to do the work God has called you to?* Amos showed us that ministry is for every follower of God, not just for "professionals." Confess any feelings or misunderstandings you may have had and commit to serve God with or without a 'title' or 'office.' _____
