

The gospel of Jesus orients our souls towards a new life with God; the practice of worship also orients our souls towards a new life with God. Making room in our lives to nurture the wellbeing of our community brings action into a new life with God.

____ do I make room to serve my community?

why is God _____ in this passage?

_____ means nothing unless people also pursue _____ in their communities

what does _____ look like in our community?

- restoring a path of _____ to people from whom _____ has been denied or taken

God's anger against _____ has been directed towards _____

I am a more complete _____ when I make room in my life to _____ of my community

We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; we believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; we believe that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry. —Belhar Confession Article 4

Make Room in Your Life

Amos 5:14–24 (NIV)



¹⁴ Seek **good**, not evil,
that you may live.

Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you,
just as you say he is.

¹⁵ Hate evil, love **good**;
maintain **justice** in the courts.

Perhaps the LORD God Almighty will have mercy
on the remnant of Joseph.

¹⁶ Therefore this is what the Lord, the LORD God Almighty, says:

“There will be wailing in all the streets
and cries of anguish in every public square.
The farmers will be summoned to weep
and the mourners to wail.

¹⁷ There will be wailing in all the vineyards,
for I will pass through your midst,” says the LORD.

¹⁸ Woe to you who long
for the day of the LORD!

Why do you long for the day of the LORD?
That day will be darkness, not light.

¹⁹ It will be as though a man fled from a lion
only to meet a bear,
as though he entered his house
and rested his hand on the wall
only to have a snake bite him.

²⁰ Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

²¹ “I hate, I despise your religious festivals;
your assemblies are a stench to me.

²² Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them.

Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.

²³ Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.

²⁴ But let **justice** roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Make Room in Your Life

Amos 5:14-24; James 1:27



Understanding the Bible:
What is the problem being
expressed in this Bible passage?

How does God show up in this Bible Passage?

What are justice and righteousness compared to in
today's Bible passage?

My favorite song today:

Things I will pray for this week:

Today's Bible Passage: Amos 5:14–24

(Can you find the highlighted words?)

L Y L J T H O U G H K
M I O C O V F M S G O
E L V H O S F S N L N
R A E E F U E I T I L
C L N D T N R P A G Y
Y G R G K B I T H H C
P O N R U L N J S T R
L O A L M I G H T Y I
L D I T A K S H A T E
D A S M P E R H A P S
W U T H E R E V I L F
J U S T I C E V E R Y

Seek **good**, not **evil**,
that you may **live**.
Then the **LORD** God
Almighty will be
with you, **just** as
you say he is. **Hate**
evil, **love good**;
maintain justice in
the **courts**.
Perhaps the **LORD**
God **Almighty** will
have **mercy** on the
remnant of **Joseph**.
Therefore this is
what the **Lord**, the
LORD God
Almighty, says:
“**There** will be
wailing in all the

streets and **cries of anguish** in **every** public square. The farmers will be summoned to weep and the mourners to **wail**. **There** will be wailing in all the vineyards, for I will pass through your midst,” says the **LORD**. Woe to you who **long** for the day of the **LORD**! Why do you **long** for the day of the **LORD**? That day will be **darkness**, not **light**. It will be as **though** a man fled from a lion **only** to meet a bear, as **though** he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall **only** to have a snake bite him. Will not the day of the **LORD** be **darkness**, not **light**—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? “I **hate**, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. Even **though** you **bring** me burnt **offerings** and grain **offerings**, I will not accept them. **Though** you **bring** choice fellowship **offerings**, I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let **justice** roll on **like** a river, righteousness **like** a never-failing stream!