



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Selections from Amos

Read and Listen to [“What I’d Give My Son”](#)

[Cowboy Tales From Roaring Rapids Ranch](#)

Class Starter or Closer Discussion Questions

1. In Amos 1:1, Amos is introduced as a shepherd called to speak God’s message during a troubled time.

How is Jake, also a working man, placed in a situation where he must act with wisdom and moral courage?

2. In Amos 2:11–12, God says He raised up prophets, but the people resisted them.

How might the young thief’s reaction to Jake’s words and the G.A.B. he received reflect how people sometimes resist or later accept good advice?

In the story, do you see any evidence that might make you think that the young thief would eventually repent and change the direction of his life?

3. In Amos 3:7–8, Amos explains that when God speaks, His servants must respond.

How did Jake feel compelled to act when he gave the Bible to the thief instead of seeking immediate punishment?

4. In Amos 7:10–15, Amos defends his calling as a simple man sent by God.

How does Jake’s simple but meaningful act, giving away his “Good Advice Book,” show that ordinary people can carry out important spiritual work?

How have “ordinary people” made a spiritual difference in your life?

5. Both Amos and Jake spoke or acted during difficult circumstances.

What can we learn about balancing justice and mercy from Jake's decision, and how might that apply in our own lives when someone has clearly done wrong?

How might our showing mercy to someone who has wronged us lead them to repent and trust in Jesus Christ?