

**Sunday, July 10, 2022 – Easter Hill United Methodist Church
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

Bible Study – Amos 7:7-17

“What Do You See?”

Open with a word of prayer

Gathering Time (5-10 minutes)

In groups of two or three, have each participant complete the following sentence, “Whom do you know who might be considered a prophet?”

Read Amos 7:7-17

What touches your heart, what do you hear in the scripture, what questions do you have, or what doesn't make sense to you in the story?

Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

Read Amos 7:7-17 again

Some reflection questions – Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

- What role does a plumb line serve in construction? Particularly, as it relates to the construction of walls?
- What might it mean for God to establish a “plumb line” in Israel? [God is making known the standards that provide for stability and the people of Israel, especially. Their leaders are crooked, unstable, and will not endure.]
- Why do you think the priest, Amaziah, reacts so sharply and unkindly to the prophecy of Amos?
- Why might Amos have rejected the title “prophet”? Are there those you know who have played the role of a prophet, even when they wouldn't have considered themselves a prophet? Might we play the role of a prophet from time to time, unknowingly?
- Why might prophets best come from a place without traditional power or influence? How can we hear and heed their voice? How might we see what they see?

Closing Reflection Question

How is this scripture calling you to change, to see, to be or what might it be calling you to do?

Prayer (10 minutes). Share prayer requests and respond appropriately.

Sending Forth (2 minutes). After all, have shared, end by praying the following or a similar prayer:

God of Righteousness, you have given us the plumb line of holiness. We give you thanks that this is not achieved on our own striving, but by heeding your work within us and through us. May we obediently follow your call wherever it might lead. **Amen.**

And now we pray The Lord's Prayer....

Our Father who art in Heaven

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power

and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.