

**Why do Fellowship Groups meet?**

Colossians 2:6-7 says: "...just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

With this in mind, the goal of Fellowship Groups is to learn to live with Christ as Lord over every area of our lives.

What do Fellowship Groups do?

So that we can encourage one another to live with Christ as Lord, Bible study and prayer are at the heart of the group meetings, along with plenty of time to get to know one another better (usually over coffee and cake!) and share our lives together.

When do Fellowship Groups meet?

Most groups meet weekly on Wednesday evening, but there are also groups meeting on Tuesday morning and early on Wednesday morning. There are groups for women on Tuesday morning and Tuesday afternoon (fortnightly). Contact Chris Hobbs for more information. Once a month on a Wednesday evening we meet together as a church family to pray.

*If you are interested in joining a Fellowship Group,
please contact Chris Hobbs, 0121 472 0050*

Fellowship Groups

May – August 2018



**Not a tame God
(Amos)**

Not a tame God (Amos)

Amos spoke God's word to God's people hundreds of years ago sometime between 793BC and 740BC. God's people were facing the rise of Assyria as a super-power, and a whole host of internal problems: corruption, religious hypocrisy, idolatry, social injustice, abuse of the poor and vulnerable. Into this context, through Amos, God roars from Zion and reveals himself as the Lord of Creation and the Lord of History who will judge the world ... and his people!

The book is made up of a number of oracles and visions: the oracles comprise the bulk of the book from 1:3-6:14 and 9:11-15, while five striking visions (locusts, fire, plumb line, basket of fruit and, finally, the Lord standing by the altar) pronounce judgement on Israel in 7:1-9:10. While the material in Amos is quite varied its overall message is clear and powerful - the God of the Covenant is awesome and inescapable; he governs the nations in righteousness and justice. He is a God big enough to handle the huge problems of our world, to bring history to a conclusion and create a new heaven and a new earth.

Of course we must not forget that Christ is the revelation of Amos' God. While some judgement takes place in history the full and final exercise of God's justice will take place when Jesus returns. He will judge the nations, abolish social injustice and rescue the poor as he 'restores David's fallen tent' and rules over his people. He is the Lion of Judah whose roar echoes through creation. Prepare to meet your God!

May	9	Prayer Gathering
	16	Our awesome God <i>AMOS 1:1-2</i>
	23	God calls the World to account <i>AMOS 1:3-2:16</i>
	30	<i>Half term Break</i>
June	6	Prayer Gathering
	13	Prepare to meet your God <i>AMOS 4:1-13</i>
	20	Religion won't save you <i>AMOS 5:1-6:14</i>
	27	See things as they are <i>AMOS 7:1-17</i>
July	4	Prayer Gathering
	11	Outreach week
	18	<i>Free for social events</i>

*These dates are Wednesdays.
For details of other groups, see overleaf.
Prayer Gatherings are in St Stephen's, 8.00-9.30pm
(or on the Tuesday before; 10.00-11.30am with crèche).*