

SERIES: Ancient Voices for a Fractured Age
WEEK 1: The Sin of Standing By
TEXT: Obadiah 10–14 (ESV)

Big Idea: Sin is not only measured by the evil we commit but also the love we refuse to give.

1. INDIFFERENCE IS NOT NEUTRALITY. IT IS A MORAL DECISION.

“Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever. On the day that you stood aloof, on the day that strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.” **Obadiah 1: 10–11**

“If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, be warmed and filled,’ without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?” **James 2:15–16**

Personal Application: Is there someone God has placed within your reach whose need you have quietly convinced yourself is someone else's responsibility?

2, A PASSIVE HEART RARELY STAYS PASSIVE.

“But do not gloat over the day of your brother in the day of his misfortune; do not rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their ruin; do not boast in the day of distress. Do not enter the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; do not gloat over his disaster in the day of his calamity; do not loot his wealth in the day of his calamity. Do not stand at the crossroads to cut off his fugitives; do not hand over his survivors in the day of distress.” **Obadiah 1:12–14**

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also...” **Matthew 6:21**

Personal Application: Where have I become comfortable standing at a distance from someone else's pain?

3. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE CALLED TO MOVE TOWARD BROKENNESS BECAUSE GOD ALWAYS MOVES TOWARD BROKENNESS.

"For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. **As you have done, it shall be done to you; your deeds shall return on your own head.** For as you have drunk on my holy mountain, so all the nations shall drink continually; they shall drink and swallow, and shall be as though they had never been."

Obadiah 1: 15-16

Personal Application: *Who is God calling me to move toward this week with the compassion of Christ?*

CONCLUSION

Will we stand at a distance, or will we move toward those God places in our path?