



Micah: Demonstrating the Gospel in Your Daily Life
Date: 10/09/2016

Pray Together

Use the first few minutes of your time together to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise:** Spend time praising God for who He is.
- **Repent:** Take a few moments to silently confess any sin that is lingering in your heart.
- **Ask:** Verbalize your needs and the needs of others to God.
- **Yield:** Surrender your will to God.

Read Together

The prophet Micah ministered in Judah during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (about 750-700 BC). For both Israel and Judah, this was a time of great economic affluence but deep spiritual decay and depravity. The Assyrians were the greatest national threat to the people of God. This great and cruel force would overtake Samaria, the capital of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, in 722 BC. In 702 BC, Assyrian armies attempted to overthrow Jerusalem, the capital of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Through the ministry of Micah and Isaiah, King Hezekiah would lead the people to return to God and the Lord spared the city (2 Kings 19:32-36; Isa 37:33-37).

Micah's recorded prophecies likely took place sometime between the fall of Samaria and the attempted overthrow of Jerusalem (722-702 BC). His message was simple: Judah should learn from Israel's mistakes, particularly her faithlessness toward the Lord God. Though Micah would attack idolatry and false worship, his strongest rebuke was toward the people—particularly the upper class—for their spiritual and social injustice (2:1-2; 3:11-3, 9-11; 6:8-12). Chapter 6, the most well known of Micah, outlined God's legal indictment of His people and the just punishment that will follow such offenses.

Coupled with these messages of doom are sections of everlasting hope and deliverance for a righteous remnant (2:12-13; 4:1-5; 5:2-9; 7:8-20). Micah speaks of a royal deliverer who will save God's people from her enemies (2:13; 5:2-9). As the prophecy closes, the people are told to wait for God's victorious salvation that is to come (7:11-20).

Outline

1. The First Oracle: Israel's Impending Judgment and Her Future Restoration (Micah 1:1-2:13)
 - a. Grief over Samaria and Jerusalem (Micah 1:1-16)
 - b. God's indictment of the oppressive upper class (Micah 2:1-5)
 - c. The true prophet versus the false prophet (Micah 2:6-11)
 - d. God's word of hope (Micah 2:12-13)
2. The Second Oracle: Indictment Against the Leaders and Israel's Future Hope (Micah 3:1-5:15)
 - a. God's indictment of the rulers and religious leaders (Micah 3:1-8)
 - b. The result of the leader's corruption (Micah 3:9-12)
 - c. God's word of hope (Micah 4:1-5:15)
3. The Third Oracle: God's Lawsuit Against His People and the Triumph of the Kingdom of God (Micah 6:1-7:20)
 - a. God's accusations against His people (Micah 6:1-8)
 - b. God's sentence of judgment (Micah 6:9-16)
 - c. Micah's lament (Micah 7:1-6)
 - d. God's word of hope (Micah 7:7-20)



Discuss Together

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion.

- As you study Micah, identify the most significant questions you need to answer to better understand its message.
- The Triune God is always the main character of Scripture. What does the book of Micah teach us about God?
- Knowing what Micah teaches us about God, what does the book teach us about humanity?
- Micah presents Yahweh as a just judge who punishes those who violate His covenant. Study the following passages and discuss how God's people have broken His covenant. How had that covenant-breaking impacted the nation of Israel (both Northern and Southern Kingdoms)? How are these injustices manifested today? Discuss how the power of the Gospel overcomes these sins.
 - Micah 2:1-5
 - Micah 3:1-12
 - Micah 6:1-8
- While Micah attacked the idolatry that accompanied the acceptance of Canaanite worship, it was the social injustices of the ruling classes to which he gave the greatest attention. How is social injustice connected to idolatry and false worship? Where does injustice dwell in your own life? Who are the idols in your life? How should God be glorified in this area of your life?
- Micah's prophesy ends with a powerful description of God and the promised salvation He will provide. Describe God's salvation presented in Chapter 7—its promises and its requirements. How does God's assurance of victory bring hope today?
- How should the Body of Christ "go there" with the message of Micah? How do you personally need to "go there" with this message?

Do Life Together

These questions are designed to be asked in a smaller group of 2-4 people. The smaller setting will provide better opportunity for authentic responses. In your smaller group time, take notes to help others remain accountable to their answers. Grow together!

- How is God calling you to exchange doom for everlasting hope?
- How has Jesus already provided hope in this area?
- Who do you need to share this hope with this week?

Pray Together

Pray through Micah 7:18-20. Praise God for His steadfast love. Ask Him to strengthen your faithfulness to Christ in these difficult days. Pray for opportunities to proclaim His Gospel.

