

# Group Questions- *Micah*: Week 1

11/12/23 – Pastor Kirby

## *Getting to Know Me Questions:*

- What would be your dream vacation, place to travel or thing to see?
- Have you ever met someone you would consider “famous”? Tell the story.

## *Into the Bible Questions:*

- What’s something from this week’s teaching that you learned, that stood out, interesting etc?
- **READ:** Ezekiel 16:49-50
- What was Sodom’s sin?
- Was this something you’ve known or understood about the story of Sodom? What have you understood?
- **READ:** Micah 1:3-9
- For extra credit or fun Google/Youtube “Ostrich sounds”
- Have you ever experienced someone, or yourself “lamenting” in such a way that it’s a loud “howl” or painful sounds? How did/do you feel in those times?
- What caused Micah so much grief?
- What are some similarities between what grieved Micah and American Christians?
- **READ** Micah 2:1
- Who is the “woe” directed towards? Can you think of other examples from the bible where the people would ‘plot to do evil’?
- What does the verse say about our ability to do these evils? What does this tell us about the kind of people being addressed?
- What should we learn about mistreating others, especially poor people?
- **READ:** Micah 2:11
- What kinds of things did the people want? Can you identify some similarities in how our world received messages from “leaders”?
- **READ:** Matthew 22:37-39
- Out of the 600+ laws in the O.T., Jesus says 2 are the most important. What are they?
- How do we read that in light of the challenge of Micah?

## *Application Questions:*

- Read through the book of Micah several times over the next 3 weeks
- Find ways to get out of your “echo chamber” of voices this week. Change the station, talk to someone/read/watch with a different viewpoint. Politics, the bible, immigration etc. As you do, pray. Pray something like ‘God, soften my heart to hear you. Don’t let my heart be hard.’

## Micah: Week 1

11/12/23

Ezekiel 16:49

<sup>49</sup> Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy.

Ezekiel 16:50

<sup>50</sup> They were haughty and did detestable things before me. Therefore I did away with them as you have seen.

### Micah – 3 sets of prophecies

1. Message to the Nations (1-2)
2. Message to the Rulers (3-5)
3. Message to Israel (6-7)

### 3 Themes of Micah

Judgment – Restoration - Justice.

### **Outline of Message to the Nations Micah 1-2**

1. God's people are toast (1:2-16)
  - a) Going to toast Judah just like He toasted Israel (1:2-7)
  - b) It's super sad, because it's going to be really bad (1:8-16)
2. Here's why they're toast (2:1-11)
  - a) The rich people are mean (2:1-5)
  - b) They're ignoring God (2:6-11)
3. A few won't get toasted (2:12-13)

Micah 1:2

<sup>2</sup> **Hear**, you peoples, all of you,

**listen**, earth and all who live in it,

that the Sovereign Lord may bear witness against you,  
the Lord from his holy temple.

<sup>3</sup> Look! The Lord is coming from his dwelling place;

he comes down and treads on the heights of the earth.

<sup>4</sup> The mountains melt beneath him

and the valleys split apart,

like wax before the fire,

like water rushing down a slope.

<sup>5</sup> All this is because of Jacob's transgression,

because of the sins of the people of Israel.

What is Jacob's transgression?

Is it not Samaria?

What is Judah's high place?

Is it not Jerusalem?

<sup>6</sup> "Therefore I will make Samaria a heap of rubble,  
a place for planting vineyards.

I will pour her stones into the valley  
and lay bare her foundations.

<sup>7</sup> All her idols will be broken to pieces;  
all her temple gifts will be burned with fire;  
I will destroy all her images.

Since she gathered her gifts from the wages of prostitutes,  
as the wages of prostitutes they will again be used.”

<sup>8</sup> Because of this I will weep and wail;  
I will go about barefoot and naked.  
I will howl like a jackal  
and moan like an owl.

<sup>9</sup> For Samaria’s plague is incurable;  
it has spread to Judah.  
It has reached the very gate of my people,  
even to Jerusalem itself.

<sup>16</sup> Shave your head in mourning  
for the children in whom you delight;  
make yourself as bald as the vulture,  
for they will go from you into exile.

Micah 2: 1-3; 6-7; 11-13

<sup>1</sup> Woe to those who plan iniquity,  
to those who plot evil on their beds!  
At morning’s light they carry it out  
because it is in their power to do it.

<sup>2</sup> They covet fields and seize them,  
and houses, and take them.  
They defraud people of their homes,  
they rob them of their inheritance.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore, the Lord says:  
“I am planning disaster against this people,  
from which you cannot save yourselves.  
You will no longer walk proudly,  
for it will be a time of calamity.

<sup>6</sup> “Do not prophesy,” their prophets say.  
“Do not prophesy about these things;  
disgrace will not overtake us.”

<sup>7</sup> You descendants of Jacob, should it be said,  
“Does the Lord become impatient?  
Does he do such things?”

“Do not my words do good  
to the one whose ways are upright?”

<sup>11</sup> If a liar and deceiver comes and says,  
‘I will prophesy for you plenty of wine and beer,’  
that would be just the prophet for this people!

<sup>12</sup> “I will surely gather all of you, Jacob;  
I will surely bring together the remnant of Israel.  
I will bring them together like sheep in a pen,  
like a flock in its pasture;  
the place will throng with people.

<sup>13</sup> The One who breaks open the way will go up before them;  
they will break through the gate and go out.  
Their King will pass through before them,  
the Lord at their head.”

Matthew 22:37-39

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

How will you use your power?