

Micah — What does the Lord Require?

GETTING STARTED

The prophet Micah speaks the nation of Judah to warn them of their sins, to call them to follow God and gives them promises of God's mercy. While some of what he talks about seems very far removed from our situation, this call is for us. We don't give sacrifices in a temple, we do however need to learn how to live our entire lives before God. Micah warns them that God is not just looking for them to give the right sacrifice on a Sunday morning, but they are called to live as God's people in every area of life. We need to learn this discipline as well as we seek to walk before God in humility, show kindness to one another and act with justice in our world.

READ THE TEXT: Micah 6:1-8

6 Hear what the Lord says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ "O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord." ⁶"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my



soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

- 1. Why does God command making sacrifices if according to vs 6-7 he doesn't want them? What makes a sacrifice acceptable?
- 2. Why is "doing justice" emphasized rather than 'being holy'? How does this connect with what James writes in James 2:14-17?

APPLY THE TEXT

- 3. What does it mean to walk humbly with God? Are there places/times in life where I find it easier or more difficult to walk humbly?
- 4. How should we as Christians engage in working with kindness and justice in our world?

SHARE & PRAY

- 1. What is one way that you are seeking to share the good news of Jesus this week? How can your life group help and support you in that?
- 2. In light of Micah, pray that we would be bold to do what is right, we would love others well and walk with humility before our God this week.

