

**He** HAS SHOWN YOU  
*Oh mortal*  
WHAT IS GOOD

AND *the* **LORD**  
WHAT  
DOES

**BUT** *require of you*  
*to act* **Justly** & *to love* **Mercy**

*and to walk* **Humbly**

WITH YOUR GOD *Micah 6:8*

## **About Micah**

The book of Micah describes God's coming judgment on Israel because of its rebellion. The Assyrian Empire and then the Babylon Empire would destroy the nation and leave Jerusalem in ruin. However, Micah also gives the people hope. Like a shepherd, God will one day gather and restore a faithful remnant to the land. He will rebuild Jerusalem, defeat evil forever, set a Messianic King to rule over the people and bless all the nations.

Before that can happen, though, He must confront and judge evil from among His people. Then He can show mercy and fulfil His covenant promise to Abraham and bless all the nations through Israel. His ultimate purpose is not to destroy Israel but to redeem and save the world.

(The Bible Project)

## Study 1: A time to mourn (Micah 1:1-16)

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1. **Apart from the death of a loved one what other occasions have caused you to shed tears of sorrow?**

### **Read Micah 1:1-16**

2. **Micah's ministry spans from Jotham to Hezekiah (about 55 years). What does this tell us about a life of Christian service?**
  
3. **Micah's ministry is very much going to focus on Samaria and Jerusalem (Mic. 1:1). What strikes you about the language in verse 2?**





**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**

# Study 2: A time to comfort!

## (Micah 2:1-13)

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1. You're standing in the ice-cream parlour: is it mint-choc-chip or strawberry? You're in bed on Sunday morning: is it get up for church or clean the house? What part do desires play in our decisions?

### Read Micah 2:1-13

2. The act of coveting was at the heart of the sins of the elite in Jerusalem (Mic. 2:1-2). How is the act of coveting at the heart of many of the sins of our nation? How is the act of coveting at the heart of many of your sins?
  
3. What are the plans that the rebellious make? (Mic. 2:1-2)  
How does this compare with the plans the Lord has for them? (Mic. 2:3-5)

Mic. 2:1-2 The Rebellious	Mic. 2:3-5 The Lord



8. We've already seen that the powerful are taking from the people and seizing their fields. Also the prophets are feeding the people false promises. How does Micah's portrayal of God in the closing verses (Mic. 2:10-13) contrast with them and thus magnify God as the one they need?

**Read John 10:1-18**

9. How is Christ a fulfilment of the picture Micah paints (Mic. 2:12-13)? How should we then view Jesus and what should our attitude be towards Him?

The Salvation Oracle Micah 2:12-13	Jesus the Good Shepherd John 10

Jesus the Good Shepherd	Micah's Wicked Shepherds

**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**

## Study 3: Butchery, Bloodshed and Bribes (Micah 3:1-12)

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1. **We are constantly told today that character doesn't matter, only competence when it comes to those in leadership. What do you personally think about this statement?**

### **Read Micah 3:1-12**

2. **What was the duty of Israel's leaders and rulers? What were they actually getting up to (Mic. 3:2-3)? Why do you think they were they doing these things?**
  
3. **Can you think of examples where this is taking place both in society and in the church?**
  
4. **What can the leaders who have treated God so badly expect from God (Mic. 3:6-7)? If a 'Christian' has a continual attitude of ignoring what God requires, what does this passage teach them about God's attitude towards them?**

- 5. What is Micah's attitude towards God's word in comparison to the false prophets' attitude (Mic. 3:5 c.f. 3:8)?**
  
- 6. If you were part of a team selecting a person for a teaching ministry within the church, how would this passage help and guide you?**
  
- 7. Some say that it is impossible for God to remove His word in our day because it's there in 'paper and ink,' readily available. What does it mean for God to remove His word and how do we see this in our day?**
  
- 8. *"Is not the LORD among us? No disaster will come upon us."* (Mic. 3:11) Why do they have such confidence? Why is this seriously misplaced?**
  
- 9. As believers filled with the Holy Spirit like Micah (v8), what will this require of us, and what can we expect as we go about our Christian lives?**

**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**

# Study 4: The Chief Mountain

## (Micah 4:1-13)

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1. When have you seen times of peace and unity? What brought them about?

### Read Micah 4:1-13

2. What are the contrasting pictures we have here (Mic. 4:1-5) in comparison to the picture we have in the earlier chapters in Micah (c.f. Mic. 3:1-12)?

Compare/Contrast	
Micah 3	Micah 4
Absence of God v.4	
Destruction of temple hill v.12	
Wicked leaders / 'heads' (ro'sh) v.9	
Oppressive bloodshed v.10	
Leaders' wicked judging v.1-2, 9	
Fake confession of trust in God v.11	
Prophets & priest do not give God's words vv.5-7	





**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**

# Study 5: Small Town, Big Plans

## (Micah 5:1-15)

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1. In order for restoration work to take place what usually has to happen before? Think about Windsor Castle after the fire in 1992.

### Read Micah 5:1-15

2. How does Micah 5:1 describe the situation of God's people and their ruler? What impression do you get of their strength and power?
3. Where is the replacement ruler going to come from (Mic. 5:2)? Why is this surprising?
4. What is it about this new ruler that sets them apart from the rulers and leaders we've encountered so far in Micah?

## **Read Matthew 2:3-8**

- 5. How does this passage mirror what we are seeing in this section of Micah?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 6. What will this ruler do for his people when he takes up His position? (Explore Micah 5:5-6)**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 7. Clearly this remnant saved by the new ruler has a significant role to play in regard to the nations (Mic. 5:7-8). How does Paul speak about that role now being fulfilled by the church in 2 Corinthians 2:15-16?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 8. Given the role of the remnant and the church, according to Micah 5:10-15, what is God going to do and why?**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 9. How is God's pattern of salvation as seen in Micah 5 representative of the way He does things, particularly how He paves the way for our own salvation in Christ?**

**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**





**9. What is the Lord's verdict and judgement on people who do and say such things? (Mic. 6:13-16)?**

**10. What is the relationship between these two verses of a famous hymn?**

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

**How is it a good summary of the teaching of this passage?**

**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**

# Study 7: Light Beyond the Darkness

## (Micah 7:1-20)

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1. Discuss some of the best transformations that you personally have witnessed.

### Read Micah 7:1-20

2. What picture is painted of God's people and their situation in Mic. 7:1-6? Who is involved in the evil practices? What would it be like to live in that community?
3. What is Micah's hope? (Mic. 7:7) How is it that he can speak of hope when all seems so bleak?
4. Micah speaks representing Israel. What does the prophet expect to see in Israel? (Mic. 7:8-13)?
5. What can we learn from Micah's prayer of repentance (Mic. 7:9) about the nature of true repentance?



**Prayers from the study**

**Prayers for the church (including your mission partners)**

**Prayers arising from your group**

# St John's, Riverside & St Faith's

## Summer 2018 Midweek Programme

Join weekly with God's people for Bible study, fellowship and prayer.

**The central prayer meeting runs from 8-9pm in the church, and is repeated the next day 10-11am in the Newland Christian Centre.**

We pray for a variety of things, including a mission partner and an area of ministry. It is a great place to encourage one another as we pray together.

11/12 Apr	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	All mission partners Building Project
17/18/19 Apr	<b>Homegroup Study 1:</b> <i>A time to mourn (Micah 1:1-16)</i>	
25 Apr	<b>Annual Parochial Church Meeting (7.30pm start)</b>	
1/2/3 May	<b>Homegroup Study 2:</b> <i>A time to comfort! (Micah 2:1-13)</i>	
9/10 May	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Martin Reynolds / Mission Assist NSJ School and Nursery
15/16/17 May	<b>Homegroup Study 3:</b> <i>Butchery, Bloodshed and Bribes (Micah 3:1-12)</i>	
23/24 May	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Caroline Grant The Persecuted Church
29/30/31 May	<b>Half term Homegroup Social</b>	
5/6/7 Jun	<b>Homegroup Study 4:</b> <i>The Chief Mountain (Micah 4:1-13)</i>	
13/14 Jun	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Viv Whitton and WEC Community Action
19/20/21 Jun	<b>Homegroup Study 5:</b> <i>Small Town, Big Plans (Micah 5:1-15)</i>	
27/28 Jun	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Charles Barr-Johnson Children and Youth
3/4/5 Jul	<b>Homegroup Study 6:</b> <i>A Call To The City (Micah 6:1-16)</i>	
11/12 Jul	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	Timothy Training International Summer Activities
17/18/19 Jul	<b>Homegroup Study 7:</b> <i>Light beyond the darkness (Micah 7:1-20)</i>	