

Name: _____

Group Discussion Booklet

MICAH 6:8

LEADER'S EDITION

Walking the Micah Road '17

He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the
LORD require of you But to do justice, to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Part 1: Getting Riffed

Discussion Group Time

1. What is the verse for this year's theme?

Micah 6:8

2. Who do people around us follow? Write down two examples of each;

a. pop star **Rihanna, Miley Cryrus, Justin Timberlake, Shannon Noll.**

b. sport star **Stephanie Rice, Lauren Jackson, Ricky Ponting, Andrew Symonds, Grant Hackett.**

c. movie star **Anne Hathaway, Will Smith, Martin Lawrence, Nicole Kidman.**

3. Do you think we should be following their example (why or why not)? **No because they are not always good examples to follow. They are sinful like us and there are many examples of famous people making big mistakes in their lives. The Bible gives us instructions about the right way to live.**

4. Who do you think we should be following on our Micah journey? Why?

Jesus, because He is perfect. He is the only one who kept God's commands perfectly.

5. What does it mean for us to follow Jesus? Look up these verses and write down one thing they are telling us to do.

a. Matthew 22:37 **Love the Lord your God.**

b. Matthew 22: 39 **Love your neighbour as yourself.**

c. Matthew 6:14 **Forgive others when they sin against you.**

d. Mark 16:15 **Go into the world and tell others the good news about Jesus.**

e. Luke 11: 1-4 **Pray to God, asking for your daily needs and for forgiveness.**

f. Luke 12:22 **Do not worry because God cares for you.**

6. Read Psalm 119:105.

a. What does this verse say God's Word is like? **A lamp and a light.**

b. So why should we follow God's Word? **Because it will lead us onto the right path and help us to follow God's ways.**

7. Take Action

a. What can you do to show you are following Jesus this week?

b. Write down 1 thing you could do on your Action Card. **Masters are found in the Theme Presentation Resources Section of the Leader's Book.**

8. **Optional:** When you read the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in the Bible (something I encourage you to do!), you'll hear Jesus extend the invitation to follow Him. He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth and he told him, "Follow me" (Matthew 9:9). Walking beside the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw Simon and his brother; Andrew fishing. He said to them, "Follow me" (Mark 1:16-18). Each time Jesus gave the invitation, they dropped what they were doing and followed.

a. Read Matthew 9:9 and Mark 1: 16-18.

b. Does this mean we have to leave everything and follow Jesus too? Give reasons for your answer. **No it doesn't mean we have to leave everything. Jesus wants us to follow Him in our everyday lives.**

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for providing us with the Bible, a roadmap for our lives. Forgive us when we ignore and refuse to obey Your commands. Please show us how to obey Your rules and signs. Teach us to walk in Your truth and Your way. In Jesus name, Amen.

Part 2: Do Justice

Discussion Group Time

1. Reread Isaiah 1:17.

- a. What three groups of people that are listed in this verse need justice?

The oppressed, the fatherless and the widow

- b. Can you think of 2 other groups of people that need justice today?

The poor people, orphans, kids at school that always seem to get bullied, people who have been effected by crime such as fraud, abuse or violence, persecuted Christians, people living under oppressive governments. Note to

Leaders: Listen to Cadets/GEMS responses and if necessary give two examples from those given above that they will understand.

2. Think about the people you met today - whether at school, on the bus, or at sport.

- a. Did you notice if any of them needed justice - needing someone to take action to help set things right? **Leaders note: If the group can't think of any examples you could ask them what they would do in one of these situations: someone who is picked on, someone in need of help, someone without friends, someone who wasn't treated fairly in a sports game.**

- b. If so, share the story and how you responded.

- c. Is there anything you wish you had done differently? Why or why not?

Leaders: Try not to be too critical but try to encourage the group to think of how they can act justly to help others.

3. Jesus acted justly when He stood up for the poor and the outcasts of society. Write down what Jesus did in the following situations:

- a. Matt 20: 29-34 **Jesus had compassion on the blind men and healed them.**
- b. Luke 5:12-13 **Jesus touched the man with leprosy and healed him.**
- c. Luke 19:1-9 **Jesus went to the house of a tax collector who cheated people of their money. Jesus saved the man.**
- d. John 4:4-9 **Jesus was friendly towards a woman from another country, even though Jews normally didn't speak to them.**

4. What does Jesus' example teach us about how we should treat people in need of justice? **We can show them Jesus' love by doing something to help them.**

5. Write down 2 ways we can help people overseas who need justice.

Help with fundraising for a TEAR Australia Purse Christmas shoebox appeal, help to sponsor a child, raise awareness by talking about it with your family, friends and teachers" to "Help with fundraising for a TEAR Australia, Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoebox appeal, help to sponsor a child, raise awareness by talking about it with your family, friends and teachers

6. Take Action:

Write down something specific you could do this week to do justice and help someone in need. It could be someone that you will see this week or someone overseas. Write this down on your Action Card.

Action Card Masters are found in the Theme Presentation Resources Section of the Leader's Book.

Prayer:

Father, please forgive us when we make life all about us. Open our eyes, ears, and hearts to the needs and cries of the desperate, poor, and lonely. Thank you that You deeply care about those who need justice. Help us to consciously seek out those who need someone to take action to help set things right. Give us wisdom to know how to respond in loving, helpful ways. We pray these things in Jesus name. Amen

Part 3: Love Kindness

Discussion Group Time

1. Imagine if you were physically carrying a burden – like a stack of heavy books.
 - a. How would you feel if everyone refused to help you? **I would feel upset that nobody cared about me.**
 - b. How would you feel if someone did offer to help you? **I would feel glad and very thankful if someone did offer to help.**

2. Reread Galatians 6:2.

- a. What are we to do for one another?

We are to carry each others burdens.

- b. Can you write that in your own words?

This means to help people when they have problems.

3. What did Jesus do when he saw people in need? Read Matthew 9:35-36 and write down 2 things Jesus did.

Jesus preached the good news and He healed people. He had compassion on them.

4. Read John 13:34.

- a. What command does Jesus give us?

We are to love one another just like Jesus did.

- b. Is this love just a feeling or does it mean more than that? **We need to show this love in our actions.**

5. Read 1 John 4:20

- a. Why might it be easier to love God than to love others? **Some people annoy us and so we find it hard to love them but God is always good to us.**

- b. Think about someone that you have a difficult time getting along with that you need to ask God to help you love this week. If there's a need to ask for forgiveness for angry, hurtful words or actions, be sure to do that, too. You can write this down in your Action Card.

Action Card Masters are found in the Theme Presentation Resources Section of the Leader's Book.

6. Take Action

Write down something you can do this week to show Jesus love to someone (at home, at school, at church, other)? Write this in your action card.

7. **Optional:** Share a burden that you have that you would like the group to pray for.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you that no matter what our burden, we can take it to You in prayer. Our burdens are never too much for You to bear! Open our eyes, hearts, and hands to be burden bearers for one another. You have given us the command to love one another. Teach us to do that through Your example in the Bible. May the people we talk to each day experience Your love through our words and actions. Help us to overcome our personal fears and hesitations so that we are willing to do whatever is necessary to show other people love and kindness. In Your name, Amen



Part 4 : Walk Humbly

Discussion Group Time

1. Read Luke 18:9-14. What did each of the two men that prayed think of themselves?

a. The Pharisee thought

He was perfect.

b. The Tax Collector thought

He was a sinner.

2. Read 1 John 1: 9 and fill in the blanks: To walk humbly with God means that we admit that we sin and that we need God to forgive us. God promises to us in the Bible that He will forgive all our sins.

3. Spend a few minutes thinking about a specific thing you need to ask God to forgive you for. Pray about it tonight when you get home.

4. To walk humbly with God also means to depend on Him. What's another way of saying this? Look up Proverbs 3:5?

We need to trust and rely on God.

5. What things do we need to trust God for?

Leaders: Ask each person in your group to look up one of these verses: 1Peter 5:7, Psalm 121: 7-8, 1 John 1:9, 1 Timothy 6: 17, Psalm 23:3,4, John 3:16.- care for us, watch over us , comfort us when we are feeling down, forgive us, provide for us and grant us eternal life.

6. Take Action:

Write a short prayer thanking God for what He does for us and asking Him to help us to rely on Him on your Action Card. (Action Card Masters are found in the Theme Presentation Resources Section of the Leader's Book).

Action Card Masters are found in the Theme Presentation Resources Section of the Leader's Book.

7. **(Optional for older groups)** Philippians 4:13 says, "I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Does this verse mean that we'll be able to jump off a tall building and fly, or snap our fingers and our homework will be finished? What does this verse really mean?

God is telling you and me that when we depend on Him He will give us the strength and power to do the things that He wants us to do. This verse is not for our pleasure or our selfish plans.

8. Reread 1John 3:1a. Focus on whose you are. Share the reasons you're thankful to be part of God's family. Finish the sentence: I am happy to be part of God's family because

Examples: God cares for me, God loves me, God will never leave me.

Option: Depending on your groups needs, finish this discussion section with the following prayer or skip it and continue with the optional Gospel Challenge.

**GIVE
WAY**

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, we need You! Please forgive us when we think we are better than others. Help us to make the choice today to depend on You to give us the strength to do all things! Thank you for that promise, Thank you for giving us the power and strength to walk the Micah Road. In Jesus name, Amen.

Part 4 : Walk Humbly

[Optional]

Optional Gospel Challenge:

This is optional depending on the needs of your group.

Maybe you're not sure if you belong to God's family. You can know by following the ABCs.

Fill in the blanks as you read this through together

A stands for: **A Admit**

To be a follower of Jesus, you must admit that you have done some things in your life that are **wrong**. The Bible says that all have **sinned** (Romans 3:23). It's our sin that keeps us separated from **God** who is holy and perfect. Admit that there's sin in your life and tell God how **sorry** you are for the wrong things you've done.

B stands for: **B Believe**

Jesus followers must believe that Jesus is God's **Son**, that He **died** and rose again to take away all the **sin** that separates us from God (Romans 5:8, John 3:16). When you believe and trust in Jesus, He will **forgive** those sins and give you a new life that begins the day you first believe and continues forever.

C stands for **C Come**

Come to Jesus and He will come to you. If you ask Jesus to come and live in your heart, you can know for certain that He will do that and that you belong to Him. You will belong to Him!

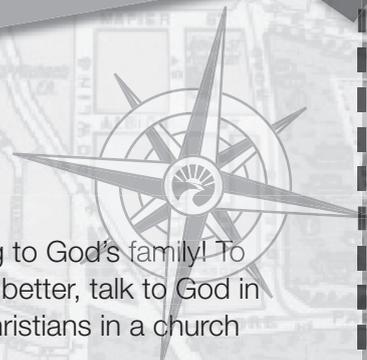
Admit, Believe, and Come to Jesus. When you do those three things and really mean it, you will be saved. You will be a follower of Jesus.

If you'd like to follow Jesus and have never prayed this prayer before, please really think about what I am saying as I pray and pray in your mind with me now:
(or repeat each line after me)

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, I admit that I've done wrong things - that there is sin in my life that is separating me from You. I'm so sorry. Please forgive me. I believe that You died to take away the sin that separates You from me. I trust that You will give me a new life that will begin today and go on forever. Please help me now to live as You require. In Your Name I pray, Amen.

If you prayed that prayer, you can know for certain that you belong to God's family! To deepen this relationship, read your Bible every day to know Jesus better, talk to God in prayer every day, and worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached.



Part 5 : Staying on Task

Discussion Group Time

1. Optional for older groups: Terry thought that walking the Micah Road was a competition to show he/she was better than Stevie and acted a bit like the hare in the fable 'The Tortoise and the Hare'. The Bible often refers to our Christian journey through life as a race.

a. Read Hebrews 12: 1 – 3.

- i. What sort of things in life could distract us from Walking the Micah Road?

Sin and worldly distractions.

- ii. Thinking about the Tortoise and Hare story (or a 100m sprinter versus a marathon runner), what attitude should you have during your Micah Road Journey? **Run with perseverance the race marked out for us.**

- iii. What do the verses you read say about Jesus and how does this help you during your Micah Road Journey?

We need to fix our eyes on Jesus, consider what He went through for us and don't lose heart.

- iv. Write down some ways we can train for this race? **Reading the Bible and praying regularly, attend church, read Christian books.**

b. Reread Acts 20:24. What 2 things did Paul say was most important to him?

To finish the race and complete the task of telling others about God's grace – the good news that God loves us and will give us eternal life if we are sorry for our sins, ask for forgiveness and put our trust in Him.

c. Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8 and write down what Paul did in his Micah Road walk and what he was looking forward to. **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith and he was looking forward to eternal life in Heaven.**

2. What does Terri say when Stevie asks him did he pray about his planned list of projects? **Who has time to pray.**

3. Why do we need to make time to pray as we try to walk the Micah Road? **We all need God's help to walk the Micah Road.**

4. What things can distract us from walking the Micah Road? **Spending time on things that are not important like watching TV...**

5. What do you remember about walking the Micah Road? Match the words below with each sentence in the table. Choose from: Follow Jesus, Do Justice, Walk Humbly, Read God's Word, Love Kindness, Remember whose we are:

If we want to walk on the Micah Road we can only follow 1 leader and that's Jesus

Follow Jesus

God's Word is like a map for our lives. We must obey God's rules so that we can head in the right direction and follow His Ways.

Read God's Word

We need God's help to take action to help people who need Jesus' love, not only the people we meet but also for people overseas.

Do Justice

We need to get rid of pride, admit our sin and ask God to forgive us. We need to depend on God, and not ourselves

Love Kindness

When we walk humbly with God we are part of God's family and he calls us His children.

Remember whose we are

Part 5 : Staying on Task

6. Take Action:

Write a short prayer asking God to help you keep on track as you walk the Micah Road. Write this on your action card.

Action Card Masters are found in the Theme Presentation Resources Section of the Leader's Book.

Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father, when we think about what it takes to walk the Micah Road, we sometimes come up with excuses for all the reasons that we can't do this walk. Please forgive us. Thank you for the reminder in Your Word that we should not be afraid because You are with us, You will strengthen us and help us. We know we can walk this road in and through You. You have created each one of us in unique ways. Thank you for Your creative and good work in our lives. Help us to use the gifts and talents You have given us to love and serve others. In Jesus name, Amen.

Notes



Walking the Micah Road '17