



Week 2
17 - 23 October 2021

**SMALL GROUP WEEKLY
DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL**

"The day for building your walls will come,
the day for extending your boundaries" Micah 7:11

THE BOOK OF
MICAH

GOD'S OFFER of HOPE

Daily Bible readings, a memory verse and a prayer for individual contemplation
Weekly worship song, reflection and small group questions

CONTENT: THE BOOK OF MICAH: GOD'S OFFER OF HOPE

Week 2	This is not the end; await the Breaker	Sunday 17 October
Week 3	The God who is among us	Sunday 24 October
Week 4:	Moving away from unrest towards peace	Sunday 31 October
Week 5	The hope of being saved from sin	Sunday 7 November
Week 6	Who God really wants us to be	Sunday 14 November
Week 7	While God is in the picture no-one and nothing is hopeless	Sunday 21 November

Week 2

This is not the end; await the Breaker

BIBLE READING:

Sunday: Micah 2:10-13

PRAISE AND WORSHIP:

Waiting here for you: Martin Smith
<https://youtu.be/-8d80ok40TQ>

Reflection

Rev Kamogelo Monoametsi

Very often when people are going through tough times, the first temptation is to think of the end before the end. End of their lives, dreams, aspirations, and purpose even before the actual ending. Human nature teaches that we have limited knowledge to the mysteries of the living God, as a result we respond to our circumstances, and situations from the limited knowledge without thinking about the overcoming power of God that manifests itself in surprising ways.



This week theme “This is not the end, await the breaker” is inspired by the prophetic message from Micah one of the minor prophets who challenged Israel’s giving up spirit. It is not Micah’s theological prowess that separates him from other minor prophets but that his message is derivative. He makes an explicit claim in his dynamic theological perspective, that what can happen in one place can happen to another, what happened to Israel can happen to Judah. He uses this strategy as both theological strategy and rhetorical ploy. When reading through his text you will identify at least three reasons why he is the prophet of good futuristic promises. 1) At many points Micah sounds like an Amos who is addressing Judah instead of Israel. 2) Some of the issues raised by Micah were broached by Isaiah (*they even share one of the oracles of salvation Micah 4:1-3/Isaiah 2:2-4*). Micah is originally from Judah and that’s what makes him so familiar with Judah’s political and religious demographics. He can communicate God’s message with deep sense of clarity, thought and conviction to a community where he grew up.

A closer look at Micah’s theological strategy exposes us to deeper insight of God’s heart and interest in the lives of the people of Judah. Proportionately, there is more to the language about time beyond disaster, than there is in Amos or Hosea. Micah 2:12-13 offers various perspectives on a future that involves a move back to the land from exile, focus on Zion and Davidic leadership, the notion of a remnant and the destruction of Israel’s enemies. In the same pericopae (*selection or extract*) we hear of two varying voices, the one speaks loudly about a community that is encouraged, awakened from their slumber because and are disillusioned about the future, they are despondent and have discarded their future. They have thrown in the towel. Does that sound familiar? Can you identify with this experience that robs us of our human potential and cripples our faith to a point where the end becomes an option and the future a no-go area? Prophet Micah offers hope during dead-end decisions taken by the people in exile, he revitalises their faith in the futuristic world, and awakens their conscience to remind them of the promises of God.

Many times, in our lives we get trapped in the dungeons of disillusionment and the stagnant rivers of demoralisation. The main problem is on waiting for the unknown revelations of God, promises that are hidden to our human knowledge and desires. Very few people are willing to wait for the ‘breaker’ because waiting requires patience, patience leads to perseverance, and perseverance is infused by optimism encompassed in the faith dimension. Here is a clarion call of God during this moment of darkness, hopelessness, and disillusionment “Arise and depart/go”. An invitation to realise the power of the one who is holding the future. The breaker, the messiah shall liberate his people. Liberation is awaiting you. Your moment is near. Hold on to Christ.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

1. What does “Arise and go” mean for your current spiritual journey and life experiences?
2. Reflect and meditate on the word “ruined” in verse ten. What has been ruined in your life and how has that impacted your life
3. Reflect on verse eleven, in particular “deceivers and liars”. How are people being deceived and lied to in our time and how can we separate lies and deception from the truth?
4. What are your thoughts about being “gathered and brought together” How is it applicable in our context of Covid 19 and the fact that we are not having physical worship?



DAILY BIBLE READING:

MONDAY: Genesis 3:17-24

Memory verse: “The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.”

Prayer: God of grace and mercy, you clothe our nakedness with your unfathomable love and kindness. Have mercy on us Lord God.

TUESDAY: Genesis 22:15-19

Memory verse: “I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies.”

Prayer: Almighty God you have blessed us with many things, some are tangible, some are not. Your blessings Oh Lord are abundant to all those who trust in your goodness and mercy.

WEDNESDAY: Exodus 2:11-25

Memory verse: “So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.”

Prayer: Light of the world, our refuge and Strength, God who walks in the suffering of your people we are mindful of your unseen and yet impactful interventions. You carry us in your loving and compassionate heart. Bless us and look upon your people with grace and love.

THURSDAY: Jonah 2:1-10

Memory verse: “In my distress I called to the LORD AND he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry.”

Prayer: God our redeemer, you redeem us from the depths of deadly activities of life, misery of life, and evil of this world. Our crying voices moves your heart and you listen with a loving and responsive heart. Hear our prayers Lord.

FRIDAY: John 8:1-11

Memory verse: “When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, ‘Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.’”

Prayer: God the father, Son and Holy Spirit bestow upon us your unceasing mercies in order that we learn to be forgiving people. We pray for hearts that are not judgemental.

SATURDAY: Romans 7:21-8:4

Memory verse: “What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?”

Prayer: God of forgiveness and redemption we repent from our old ways that has polluted our souls. Forgive our ignorance and blindness. Lord have mercy.



It is important for parents to take time to lead the conversations of family time and to be honest with their children in these conversations.

BY JENNY BLAKE – CHILDREN’S PASTOR
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Sunday 17 October

Pray daily: Set up family time for prayer and devotions and stick to this arrangement. All devotions should always begin by with a prayer. Ask a family member to pray or one of the children.

Scripture Reading: Micah 2:10-13 Allow children/teens to read out loud for the family.

Activity/Family Moment:

Create an obstacle course. It doesn’t need to be too complicated. It could look like hopscotch to crawling under chairs then to climbing over chairs etc.

Explain that the Christian path isn’t always easy, but it is always possible. It is possible because of Jesus.

In verse 13 its mentions ‘one who breaks open’ NIV, ‘God will open the way for them’ Good News, ‘The breaker is come up before them’ (King James Version), ‘Then I, God, will burst all confinements and lead them out into the open.’ (The message). Micah has prophesied that Jesus will be the breaker; Jesus will break free his people and he will lead the way making it possible for us to do so as well.

Talk about times that seemed so difficult, but it turned out ok in the end.