



Week 5
7 - 13 November 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 5 The hope of being saved from sin
- Week 6 Who God really wants us to be
- Week 7 While God is in the picture no-one and nothing is hopeless

- Sunday 7 November
- Sunday 14 November
- Sunday 21 November

Week 5

The hope of being saved from sin

BIBLE READING:
Sunday: Micah 5:1-5

PRAISE AND WORSHIP:

 Royal Choral Society: 'Hallelujah Chorus' from Handel's Messiah
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUZEtVbJT5c>



Reflection

by **Nangamso Mankai**

We get this week's Scripture from the Old Testament book of Micah. The people, under the rule of King Hezekiah, were people whose morality was somewhat questionable. The leaders of the time were only interested in serving those who they felt that they could benefit from, it was an environment that "served those who could serve the leaders". Jerusalem was filled with corruption and dishonesty. As a result of this and many bad activities by the people of Samaria and Jerusalem, destruction was imminent as they sinned against God.

Does this sound familiar? The book of Micah somewhat mirrors the challenges we face as a country and as the body of Christ, where our sinful ways have brought about God's sadness.

God brings hope by using what was considered something insignificant to fulfil his plan. The book prophesied that Bethlehem, a small unassuming town, would be the place where God's son, our Saviour, would be born. Despite the punishment given by God on his people for their disobedience and greed, Micah provides the promise of a Messiah who will come and restore the covenant God made to His people.

You see in our daily walks of faith at times we veer from the path God wants us to walk and find ourselves opening up the doors of our lives to all sorts of trouble but this Chapter and verse reminds us of God's love – that He would send His son to “redeem” and renew our covenants. We are saved from our sin by our faith in God. God is not swayed by the material, powerful or seemingly important things by worldly standards. God uses places, people and things that are not considered significant to bless others and the world.

I pray and hope that as you meditate on this word, God's love for us becomes evident and we hold onto the promises of restoration and prosperity by the one who made a covenant of love with us all. May our “insignificant” selves be a blessing to the world.

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS:

1. How do you know that your sin's have been forgiven?
2. What kind of Christian would you consider yourself to be? Do you embody the hope and assurance of being saved for others and are you accessible to all of God's people?
3. In what ways can we, in our immediate environments, be change agents that will encourage other to turn towards God?



DAILY BIBLE READING:

MONDAY: Colossians 2:13-15

Memory verse: “He has taken it (our sins) away”.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, we pray that we may live as those who have been given a second chance in your Kingdom.

TUESDAY: Leviticus 16:15-22

Memory verse: “And he shall go out to the altar that is before the Lord and make atonement for it”.

Prayer: God, we pray that we may continually approach your altar for continuous refinement.

WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 45:15-21

Memory verse: “But Israel shall be saved”

Prayer: Holy Spirit, we pray for your continued renewal and salvation in our lives.

THURSDAY: Ephesians 4:29-32

Memory verse: “Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another”.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, may you show us where we harbour unforgiveness and hatred and give us the strength to let go of these feelings.

FRIDAY: Ezekiel 13:17-23

Memory verse: “Because with lies, you have made the hearts of the righteous sad”.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, help us to show love and your goodness to all your people.

SATURDAY I Corinthians 15:50-58

Memory verse: “Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God”.

Prayer: Holy Spirit, cause us to constantly seek for our Spirit to be in love with your ways.



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
jennyb@bmc.org.za

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER WEEK 5

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

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4:29-32

Allow children/teens to read out loud for the family.

International Children's Bible

²⁹ When you talk, do not say harmful things. But say what people need—words that will help others become stronger. Then what you say will help those who listen to you. ³⁰ And do not make the Holy Spirit sad. The Spirit is God's proof that you belong to him. God gave you the Spirit to show that God will make you free when the time comes. ³¹ Do not be bitter or angry or mad. Never shout angrily or say things to hurt others. Never do anything evil. ³² Be kind and loving to each other. Forgive each other just as God forgave you in Christ.

Activity/Family Moment:

In this passage God is asking us not to be bitter, angry or mad. And we should not retaliate with mean actions or words. But sometimes it's so hard not to get upset. It's also not good for us to keep all that hurt or angry bottled up. To feel emotions is normal and very natural, how we handle them is important.

You can do an experiment here to show what happens when we bottled up our negative emotions:

You will need a bottle of coke and Mentos

You will want to do this outside as it will be messy

What you do is; open the bottle of coke. Then show the pack of Mentos and say these are negative emotions. You can ask what kind of things make us angry, sad or mad. You can also discuss things that have not been forgiven yet, maybe a sibling fight or breaking rules etc.

(Do this part quickly) drop the Mentos into the coke bottle and stand back!

Watch as the coke bubbles over.

This is what happens to us. We can't hold onto all these angry hurt feelings. They will eventually bubble over. And in the process make a much bigger mess! We can hurt lots of people and ourselves if we don't work through what we are feeling, when we are feeling it and ready to deal with it.

God does not bottle up all the bad things we have done. God forgives easily and with love. We should look to God and follow God's example. God has grace and mercy.

As a family you can write on a piece of paper all the things that are making you mad or sad. You can write down your worries and sins. Then in a safe place, perhaps over a braai burn them. As your paper burns pray to God, asking for forgiveness and strength to forgive others. Know that God has forgiven you and loves you unconditionally.