

**Title:** No Fishing Allowed

**Text:** Micah

**Takeaway:** Don't pick up what Jesus came to nail down.

.The **problem** with God's people: *Micah 1:7, Micah 3:1-4, Micah 3:5-7.*

- A. They lived as though there were no **consequences** to their sin.
- B. Idolatry, Corruption, and False prophets.
- C. *"Yet they look for the LORD's support and say, "Is not the LORD among us? No disaster will come upon us." Micah 3:11 NIV*

.The **conviction** of God's people

- A. *"My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam." Micah 6:3-4 NIV*
- B. They forgot the deeds of the Lord. Ref. Psalm 77:11-12

.The **response** of God's people:

- A. *"Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" Micah 6:7*
- B. Right motivation, wrong sacrifice.

.The **practice** of God's people: Micah 6:8 NIV

- A. *To act justly:* To be fair and honest in every situation.
- B. *To love mercy:* Not getting what you do deserve.
- C. *To walk humbly:* Not thinking too highly of yourself.

.The **promise** to God's people

- A. *"You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea." Micah 7:19 NIV*
- B. "Tashlikh": A ceremony performed "to cast off" sins.

**Discussion Questions:** "Look how great we are, The LORD must be for us!" Does this sound familiar? Have you ever felt that way? Mistaking God's patience for His approval is often the norm for our society. But, just as Micah shared with all of Judah and Israel, God's judgement is coming for those that have sinned against God. Yet, in the midst of it all Micah gives us hope in the prophecy of the coming Messiah (Micah 5:2-5). The book of Micah calls to mind both the unfathomable judgement of God and His unending love wishing that none should perish but all come to repentance.

The key verse is Micah 6:8, which states; "He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." In this single verse, we can see what God requires of us. How can you take this verse with these principles and apply them this week? How can you act justly? Love mercy? And what does it mean to walk humbly with God?