

## Small Group Guide: Micah 7 - "Who Is a God Like You?"

### Opening Prayer & Icebreaker

**Icebreaker Question:** Share about a time when you had to wait for something important. How did that waiting period change you?

### Sermon Summary

This sermon explores Micah 7:10-20, focusing on God's faithfulness to His people even in judgment, the promise of restoration, and the incredible truth that God pardons sin completely. The prophet Micah reminds Israel (and us) to wait expectantly for the Lord, even when facing consequences of sin, because God's love is everlasting and His promises are sure.

### Key Takeaways

1. **Deliverance never comes without judgment** - God disciplines those He loves to bring them back to Himself
2. **God's enemies will ultimately be ashamed** - Those who mock God and His people will one day bow before Him
3. **God is faithful to restore His people** - There is a future day of complete restoration coming
4. **Our sins are completely forgiven** - God casts our sins into the depths of the sea, never to be remembered
5. **We must wait expectantly on the Lord** - Patience and humility are essential in our walk with God

### Discussion Questions

#### Understanding the Text (15 minutes)

1. **Read Micah 7:7-10 together.** What does it mean to "watch expectantly for the Lord" even when we've sinned? How does this differ from worldly approaches to guilt and shame?
2. The sermon mentioned that "then" in verse 10 refers back to humility and repentance. Why is humbling ourselves before God essential before experiencing deliverance?
3. What does verse 18 reveal about God's character? How does understanding God's delight in "unchanging love" impact how we view ourselves and our relationship with Him?

#### Personal Reflection (20 minutes)

4. **Jerome's quote described Jerusalem as "every soul."** The pastor asked: "If your heart was Jerusalem, which has been the temple of the Lord... but became overcome by sins, fallen captive by its own consent..."

- Where have you given the world "permission" to take up space in your soul?
  - What areas of your life have you allowed to become comfortable with culture rather than committed to Christ?
5. The sermon stated: "If I let my feelings be my guide, if I let my heart be my guide, where is that going to lead me?"
- In what areas are you most tempted to follow feelings rather than faith?
  - How can we practically "put the flesh down" in those areas?
6. **Read 1 Thessalonians 1:10, James 5:7-8, and Psalm 27:14.** What does it look like practically to "wait for the Lord" in your current circumstances? What makes this difficult?

### Application & Action (20 minutes)

7. The pastor mentioned that "the church is under attack today like never before" with people asking "Where is your God?"
- How do you typically respond when people question your faith or God's goodness?
  - How can we be "light and salt" without being defensive or compromising truth?
8. **The concept of Tashlich** (casting bread into water to symbolize sins being cast away) was mentioned.
- What sin or guilt are you still carrying that God has already forgiven?
  - What would it look like for you to truly "let that go at the cross"?
9. The sermon emphasized: "There's so much more God has for you in this life besides just getting saved. There's a whole kingdom to take back."
- What does this "more" look like in practical terms for your daily life?
  - What territory has the enemy taken in your life that needs to be reclaimed?

### Group Challenge (10 minutes)

10. **Accountability Question:** The pastor said, "If you're not praying, if you're not reading your Bibles, it doesn't matter what message you hear."
- How consistent is your time in prayer and Scripture?
  - Would you be willing to commit to a specific daily time this week and share that with the group for accountability?
11. **Corporate Confession:** Micah 7:19 says God "will tread our iniquities underfoot." As a group, spend time in silent confession, then pray together thanking God for His complete forgiveness.

### Practical Applications for This Week

Choose 1-2 actions to commit to this week:

- ☐ **Daily Scripture & Prayer:** Set a specific time (morning or evening) for 15 minutes of Bible reading and prayer
- ☐ **Confession Practice:** Use 1 John 1:9 daily - confess sin immediately and receive God's forgiveness
- ☐ **Symbolic Release:** Consider doing your own "Tashlich" - write down sins you're struggling to release, pray over them, then destroy the paper as a symbol of God's complete forgiveness
- ☐ **Examine Your Heart:** Journal through Jerome's description - where has the world crept into your "Jerusalem"? What needs to change?
- ☐ **Memorize Scripture:** Learn Micah 7:18-19 this week as a reminder of God's pardoning grace
- ☐ **Share Your Hope:** Identify one person who questions God's existence or goodness, and pray for an opportunity to share your faith with gentleness and respect

### Closing Reflection

#### Read together Micah 7:18-20:

*"Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. You will be faithful to Jacob, and show love to Abraham, as you pledged on oath to our ancestors in days long ago."*

**Closing Question:** How does this passage change the way you'll approach God this week?

### Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer

- Share prayer requests related to areas where you need God's restoration
- Pray for each other to walk in the freedom of complete forgiveness
- Ask God to help the group be light in darkness and to wait expectantly for His return

**Close with this prayer focus:** *"Father, search our hearts. See if there be any wicked way in us. Make us right. Help us to walk in the freedom of Your complete forgiveness and to extend that forgiveness to others. In Jesus' name, Amen."*