

Small Group Guide: Micah's Message of Sin, Judgment, and Pardon

Key Takeaways:

1. God's people had fallen into idol worship and were not listening to His true prophets.
2. Their sins included covetousness, materialism, and taking advantage of the poor.
3. God's judgment was coming, but He always provides a way for redemption.
4. Jesus is the ultimate "breaker" who makes a way for us to access God.

Discussion Questions:

1. The pastor mentioned having an "epiphany" about his sermon delivery. How can we ensure we're communicating God's message clearly in our own lives?
2. The sermon highlighted how Israel let the surrounding culture influence their faith. In what ways do you see modern culture influencing the church today?
3. Micah 2:1-2 talks about people scheming iniquity. How can we guard our minds against sinful thoughts and plans?
4. The pastor said, "False prophets are everywhere." How can we discern between true and false teachings in today's world?
5. Discuss the quote: "This book will keep you from sin, and sin will keep you from this book." How have you experienced this in your own spiritual life?
6. The sermon mentioned "idols" in our lives. What are some common idols people struggle with today, and how can we identify them in our own lives?
7. How does the image of Jesus as the "breaker" who goes before us encourage you in your faith journey?

Practical Applications:

1. Self-Examination: Take time this week to ask God to reveal any "idols" in your life. Journal about what He shows you and make a plan to address them.
2. Bible Reading: Commit to reading a portion of Scripture daily, even if it's just a few verses. Reflect on how it applies to your life.
3. Cultural Awareness: Pay attention to ways the surrounding culture might be influencing your faith. Discuss with a trusted friend or accountability partner.
4. Serving Others: Look for an opportunity to serve someone in need this week, remembering God's call to care for the poor and vulnerable.
5. Prayer Focus: Spend time in prayer asking God to help you hear His voice more clearly and to give you the courage to follow His leading.
6. Gratitude Practice: Each day, write down three things you're thankful for, focusing on God's goodness and provision in your life.