

MINOR PROPHETS

Discussion Questions

Read Micah 1:1 - 2:13

Chapter 1 of Micah is all about God's anger and judgement against Samaria for their idolatry, but also against Jerusalem. Why is God mad at Jerusalem? (2:1-2, 6-9)

On Sunday, Steve said that the heart of Judah's sin was selfishness. The people were looking out for their own interests rather than the interests of those around them. How is that true of the people in verses 1-2? How about the prophets in verses 6-7?

Steve gave some examples of how we can be selfish in our lives. He talked about getting revenge when someone hurts us, being thoughtless (not doing the dishes and leaving them for someone else), and the way we serve at church. Did any of those ring true for your life (not other people, your life)? Why or why not?

Are there any other areas where you act selfishly at times? Do you ever do good things for selfish reasons?

The major theme of Micah is God's mercy. What does mercy mean? What was the word Steve emphasized on Sunday?

Our memory verse for May and June is Micah 7:18-20. Verse 18 says "You do not stay angry forever, but delight to show mercy [lovingkindness]." How is God's lovingkindness different from our selfishness?

And how does God want us to live? (Take a look at Micah 6:8)

Why does God respond with judgement and anger when we don't? How does His lovingkindness work with His anger?

But God's lovingkindness means that He does not stay angry forever (remember 7:18). So in Micah 2:12-13, God gives a promise of hope. Read those verses, how does God present Himself in verse 12 (what job is he doing?)

How about in verse 13? Who is leading the people as they burst out in victory?

The ultimate hope for Christians is not that God will save us from an enemy kingdom, but that He will save us from the real enemy, our own sin and selfishness. Jesus is the good shepherd, the king of kings, and the Lord, God the Son. What has He done to deliver us from our sin?

Take a look at Romans 15:14-18. Was Paul's mission to see the gentiles forgiven for their sins, or was it more than that? What does "sanctified" mean (v 16)? How does this sanctification happen, according to this verse? What is the result (end of v 18)?

Christ not only died and rose again so we can be forgiven, but He sent the Holy Spirit to live in us and change us so we can obey God. This is the gospel, our hope. Spend some time praying and asking the Holy Spirit to root out your sin and selfishness and making you more like Christ, so you can love mercy/delight in lovingkindness.