



PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE—YOUTH

Lesson 5: God's People Are Sheep In A Pen—Micah 1-2

ENCOUNTER—Community Discussion

After reading the passage, take time to journal through the questions below. Don't feel like you have to answer all these questions. Wrestle with the text, and be prepared to share with your community.

*How is this God's story?
How is this others' story?*

*How is this my story?
How is this the world's story?*

PRAYER

*LORD, you have been our dwelling place
throughout all generations.
Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

*You turn people back to dust,
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."
A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.
Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—
they are like the new grass of the morning:
In the morning it springs up new,
but by evening it is dry and withered.*

*We are consumed by your anger
and terrified by your indignation.
You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
All our days pass away under your wrath;
we finish our years with a moan.*

*Our days may come to seventy years,
or eighty, if our strength endures;
yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow,
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.
If only we knew the power of your anger!
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.
Teach us to number our days,
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

*Relent, Lord! How long will it be?
Have compassion on your servants.
Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.
Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
for as many years as we have seen trouble.
May your deeds be shown to your servants,
your splendor to their children.*

*May the favor of the LORD our God rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands.*

(Psalm 90)

WEEKLY PRACTICE

Knowing God's love toward humanity can help us see the suffering in the world in a different light. Sometimes our thoughts can distract us from realizing that Christianity is not just a belief system, but a relationship between us and a living God.

Go online to a news website and begin to scroll through the stories. As you do, do your best to slow down and feel the pain of those involved in suffering. Invite God to make His presence real in your life. Begin to open yourself to see things as God see them. Pray a responsive prayer in light of your experience.

BECOMING MY STORY

2 Kings 19

Acts 15

Spend time this week reading and journaling through the above Scriptures. In the context of Micah 1-2, consider the following questions:

How is God calling you to be separate from the world?

How is God calling you to be a part of the world?

Consider other passages you might know related to Micah 1-2 and read them this week, journaling as you go.