

Dig Deeper @Home – "God's Will" Complement to sermon on 7/8/2018 – "Embracing God's Will"

ICE BREAKER – ask these to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

- 1. What was or is your favorite thing to do after finishing a day at school or during the summer?
- 2. When, if ever, have you tried bribing your parents for a favor?

MEMORIZE – 2nd Peter 3:9

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promises as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

READ – Micah 6

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- 1. What does this passage reveal about God? About humanity?
- 2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life?
- 3. In this trial scene, (Micah 6) who is the accused? The prosecutor? Judge and jury? What makes God's case against Israel so convincing? (vv. 2-5)
- 4. In verse 5 he challenges the people to remember what Balak King of Moab devised. What did Balak counsel and Balaam answer? (Numbers 22-24)
- 5. How does what happened from "Shittim to Gigal" strengthen God's case? (Joshua 2-4)
- 6. Under cross-examination, what does the accused have to say? (vv. 6-8.) What is the payment the accused tries to offer to pay for their guilt?
- 7. What will the Lord accept? Why? (vs. 8). On what would you base a case against God? (vs. 1) Would it hold up in his court of justice and mercy? What does it mean to 'do justice' and 'love kindness' and 'walk humbly'?

Experiential - EXCUSES GAME: Sit in a circle and have someone think of a task or responsibility such as 'handing in homework' or 'taking out the trash'. Have each person give an excuse for why they couldn't perform the task, such as 'the dog ate my homework'. Keep going around the group until you run out of excuses. Then think of another task and go around the circle again. After a while you will begin to realize how funny excuses sound. Ask the question "What kind of excuses do we often give for not trusting and obeying God?"

Testimony Time – Share with others in the group how have you followed or trusted Jesus this week. Where have you seen God at work in your life or in the lives of those you regularly relate to?

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Micah 6:8 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIJIqwCIPcw</u>

This worship song from Maranatha Music has been around for a long time. But it puts the scripture to music and can help us to remember God's will for us as written in Micah 6:8. As you sing, remember God's kindness and mercy to us in sending His son Jesus to save us.

Jesus, thou mighty Lord – Mennonite Hymnal #96

This hymn written in 1883 by Fanny Crosby gives praise to Jesus our mighty Lord and Savior who has 'sought us by his mercy' and 'saved us by his great power'. Thanks be to God!

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us live in faith and trust.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Awesome God, be glorified in our praises and prayers to you. You have shown us what is good and what you require of us. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live justly and to love mercy and to live this day humbly trusting and serving you as our Lord and King. In Jesus Name, Amen.