

Dig Deeper @Home – "A God like No Other" Complement to lesson on 03/22/2020 – "Divine Redemption"

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

- 1. What are some examples of situations you have experienced or witnessed where you felt hope was lost and there was no chance of positive outcomes?
- 2. What potential POSITIVE outcomes can you predict as a result of this period of uncertainty, "social distancing", and having our "normal everyday lives" interrupted?

MEMORIZE – Micah 7: 18-19

"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."

READ Micah 1

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What are your initial thoughts when you read Micah 4?

What sticks out to you? What did you like? What didn't you like?

- 2. What general text observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
- 3. The prophesies in Micah 4 had a historical fulfillment in the Israelites return from exile, but ultimately reach their fulfillment through Jesus in the establishing of His kingdom. What aspects of Micah 4 bring you hope for the "now but not yet" Kingdom rule of God?
- 4. What is this passage revealing about God? About us as humans?
- 5. In light of these revealed truths, what changes might you need to make, and how do you feel you are being called to put this into action?

Experiential activity – Taking it All In

The Bible, and in particular Micah chapter 4, show that God is in the business of making beauty out of brokenness, always seeking to reconcile and redeem. He is a God of order, not chaos. As a way of modeling the "gathering" and "assembling" of broken and cast-off pieces in Micah 4:6, and since most of us have large amounts of extra time on our hands these days, gather your family or a small group and assemble a large jigsaw puzzle. Intentionally keep in mind that when things seem chaotic and out of order, God is working all things for the good of those who love him and have been called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28), even when we can't see "the full picture."

If you are feeling particularly ambitious, take Pastor Kris' suggestion and find a sword to beat into a plowshare for use in backyard gardening.

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!) God, I Look to You - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fTiQLzHZrk</u> No Longer Slaves - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQqkXg-C9jo</u> I Need Thee Every Hour – Mennonite Hymnal 578 - <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pqYXTK4JYz8</u>

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 in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Go forth this week filled and empowered by the Spirit of the LORD (Micah 3:8) Entering all situations with Kingdom eyes, hopeful and expectant to find God at work, reconciling and redeeming. (Colossians 1: 15-23)

And may you experience the peace of walking with Jesus, in the power of the Spirit (Matthew 28:20 / John 14: 15-29)

In the name of the Lord our God forever and ever. (Micah 4:5)