

# WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

## “Thieves and False Prophets”


### WEEK 2

#### MICAH SERIES OVERVIEW

Corrupt politicians. False prophets. Weak church leaders. These were major problems during Micah’s day, which resulted in idolatry, religious ritualism, and social injustice in both Israel and Judah. Through Micah, God brings a lawsuit against the people, declaring both his righteous judgment and future salvation.

#### BOOK OF MICAH OVERVIEW

 **Book of Micah Summary: A Co...**

 **Micah at a Glance.pdf** -resource by David Stagers.

#### CONTEXT: Micah 2:1-13

In Micah 2:1-13, the prophet Micah condemns the people of Israel for their greed and oppression, revealing their plans to seize property and take advantage of the vulnerable. God’s judgment is proclaimed against their actions, but a promise of restoration for the faithful remnant is also given.

#### SCRIPTURE: Micah 2:1-13

1 Woe to those who devise wickedness and work evil on their beds! When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in the power of their hand. 2 They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them away; they oppress a man and his house, a man and his inheritance. 3 Therefore thus says the Lord: behold, against this family I am devising disaster, from which you cannot remove your necks, and you shall not walk haughtily, for it will be a time of disaster. 4 In that day they shall take up a taunt song against you and

moan bitterly, and say, “We are utterly ruined; she changes the portion of my people; show he removes it from me! To an apostate he allots our fields. 5 Therefore you will have none to cast the line by lot in the assembly of the Lord. 6 “Do not preach”—thus they preach— “one should not preach of such things; disgrace will not overtake us.” 7 Should this be said, O house of Jacob? Has the Lord grown impatient? Are these his deeds? Do not my words do good to him who walks uprightly? 8 But lately my people have risen up as an enemy; you strip the rich robe from those who pass by trustingly with no thought of war. 9 The women of my people you drive out from their delightful houses from their young children you take away my splendor forever. 10 Arise and go, for this is no place to rest, because of uncleanness that destroys with a grievous destruction. 11 If a man should go about and utter wind and lies, saying, “I will preach to you of wine and strong drink,” he would be the preacher for this people!

12 I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob; I will gather the remnant of Israel; I will set them together like sheep in a fold, like a flock in its pasture, a noisy multitude of men. 13 He who opens the breach goes up before them; they break through and pass the gate, going out by it. Their king passes on before them, the Lord at their head.

**ICEBREAKER:** Share one thing you would do if you had a whole day to yourself with no obligations.

This helps us understand what we value and what brings us joy, setting the stage for talking about desires and contentment in the context of Micah 2:1-13.



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#### STARTER QUESTION

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

#### GROUP DISCUSSION

Read the “woe oracle” (Micah 2:1-5). What is the significance of it and why do you think God told Micah to tell the people of his day and us today?

In verses 6-11, Micah references how the Israelites wanted to hear the false prophets/teachers instead of Micah’s prophetic truth. How do the messages differ and how is this battle playing out today?

How does Micah 2:12-13 shift the tone from judgment to hope? How does this bring hope to you?

How is Jesus referenced in verse 13?

What does the imagery of a shepherd and sheep in verses 12-13 convey about God's relationship with His people?

How does our culture heighten our covetousness and how does it influence our sense of contentment or discontentment?

**Deeper Community:** What does this passage teach us about God as Micah condemns the people of Israel, brings God's judgment, proclaims God's restoration for His remnant and redemption for His people? How does it change your view of God?

#### PRAYER

*\*For a deeper and more responsive prayer time, separate into a men's group and women's group or in couples.*

Share praises, answered prayers and prayer requests. Share prayers of gratitude as we experience Thanksgiving this week.

**Closing Prayer:** Heavenly Father, we thank You for Your Word that guides us and teaches us. Help us to recognize the areas in our lives where we may be tempted by greed or discontentment. Fill our hearts with gratitude and contentment, and enable us to love others as You have loved us. May Your Spirit move within us, stirring compassion and grace so that we can be advocates for the marginalized and a light in the darkness. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### B.L.E.S.S. Update: Who's Your ONE?

Review the BLESS principles and ask if anyone has an update to share.

**B**egin with prayer

**L**isten to their story

**E**at with them

**S**erve them

**S**hare your story and the story of Jesus