



MICAH

WEEK 1 - INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

The book of Micah captures this prophet's oracles during a time of turmoil in Israel not entirely unlike our own. Injustice ran rampant in the land, the people were disregarding the commands of Yahweh, and those in power wanted prophets who would only tell them what they wanted to hear. However, Micah doesn't mince words. His mission is to **afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted**. Which are we? Because these words still speak to us today.

If you would do what is right, you would find my words comforting. Yet to this very hour my people rise against me like an enemy!

Micah 2:7-8

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Micah 2:6-13.

1. Has anyone ever "told you what you wanted to hear"? Explain what this is like.
2. What problems did ancient Israel (the world behind the text) have at the time of Micah that are similar to problems we face today?
3. Describe the role of an Old Testament prophet. Who fills this role in today's world?
4. How does Micah "afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted"?
5. If you're being honest with yourself, which are you - comfortable or afflicted?
6. What are some examples of "incomplete truths", as Barry describes?
7. What is the "complete truth" that can bring hope now?
8. In the "world in front of the text" today, what does the imagery of sheep and the Good Shepherd mean? What feelings does this image evoke in you?

RESOURCES

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