

Micah

Family Worship Guide

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God Centered Family





Instructions

Before You Get Started:

- 1. Print out a Listening Guide worksheet for each child** (pages 4–7).
These worksheets help children of all ages become ACTIVE listeners during family worship. The goal is to help children see that the Bible is something to hear, believe, and enjoy — not just something to sit through.
Note: Each of these worksheets have an age range at the top. This is really just a rough guideline. Choose the worksheet that you think best fits your child's reading level.
- 2. Print out the People Group Focus Sheet** (page 9)
Each of our family devotionals encourages you and your kids to pray for a specific unreached people group — a culture with little or no access to the gospel.

You can post this sheet in your home, or pass it around to your children during family worship to help them learn about missions and God's love for the world.
- 3. Read the Introduction for Parents** (page 3).
Because the Bible isn't just for your kids — it's for YOU too! We hope that our family devotionals will help you grow your knowledge and love for God's Word.

During Family Worship:

 Before Reading Today we're going to read God's warning that he is coming to punish the Israelites for their sin. As we read , try to find out if Micah is happy or sad about this coming judgement.	Read these instructions out loud. They'll help your children listen carefully as you read.
Read Micah 1	Read this passage. You'll typically read 15–30 verses of Scripture.
 Ask <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Who wrote this book?▶ Micah 1 describes big destruction in Israel. Who is destroying? Who is being destroyed?▶ This judgement is God's right response to sin. What does this tell us about what God is like? What does this tell us about God's view of sin?	Ask these questions. The questions typically move up from basic comprehension ("What did we just read?") to application. It may be best to start with your youngest child and work your way up by age.
 Pray <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ For Your Family: Pray for the just God to show your family their sin and destroy their idols (1:7).▶ For Your Church: Pray for your church to boldly proclaim this news of coming judgement to the world.▶ For the Nations: Pray for the Ngada of Indonesia, that missionaries would tell how they can escape God's coming judgement.	Pray together. Each day, we will give you three things to pray for, based on the passage. You can pray, or one or more of your kids can pray too.
 Sing Suggested Hymn for the Week: "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" or "Jesus is Lord" by Keith and Kristyn Getty	Sing because God is worthy of praise. Choose one song for each week, so you can learn and reflect on the words. We'll always suggest one old hymn and one modern song.

An Introduction to Micah

For Parents

The prophet Micah delivered a message of judgement to God's unjust people. Through Micah, God rebuked the people for their bad treatment of one another (injustice) and their failure to keep the law. But God also promised a coming day when he will restore his judged people and he himself will forgive their sins and reign over them as their great, glorious, just King.

Who Wrote the Book?

Micah was a prophet from the city of Moresheth-Gath (1:1, 14), a city just south of Jerusalem in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Micah was well-known and was even praised by the prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:17–19). His name means “Who is the Lord?,” a question that is repeated in the book's conclusion (7:18).

When Was This Book Written?

Micah prophesied between 750 and 687 BC:

- ▶ 1,250 years after God called Abraham
- ▶ 250 years after David became king
- ▶ 90 years before Judah was exiled to Babylon (the threat of Babylon loomed large over God's people during this time)
- ▶ 717 years before the public ministry of Christ began

Structure of Micah

Understanding the overall structure of a book can help us understand how all the passages fit together (and what they mean.) Micah is divided into three sections.

- ▶ **Micah 1–3 — The People's Injustice and God's Just Judgement**
The people's sin and God's coming judgement as the fitting response to their sin.
- ▶ **Micah 4–5 — God's Plan: He will Reign as King of the Nations**
A glorious future where God himself will deliver his people and reign over all the nations of the earth from a throne in Jerusalem.
- ▶ **Micah 6–7 — God's Plan: He Will Judge his People, but Then Restore Them**

God promises consequences for their sin, but ultimately reminds them of the hopeful future promised in chapters four and five.

Key Themes in Micah

- ▶ **Justice** — God's people are rebuked for their disobedience to God and poor treatment of others.
- ▶ **Deliverance** — God will be faithful to his unfaithful people. He will deliver them from their sin by reigning over them.
- ▶ **Christ Promised as a Just King** — Do you know what it means for Jesus to be Lord? It means that he is a King. But he isn't just any King — he's the best King in all of history, because he alone rules and reigns with perfect justice. He never does anything wrong and he always does everything right.

Why Read Micah to Your Kids?

The Justice of God — Children of all ages have a keen awareness of injustice around them. Our children know when they have been wronged (e.g., when another child refuses to share, when mom or dad is impatient, when a sibling excludes them) and long for justice to be done. The message of Micah gives them hope that justice will certainly be done. Every wrong thing will be punished and made right. Of course, the justice of God will also demand payment for *their* sin, a demand that will, by grace, draw our children to the cross and empty tomb.

Recommended Resources

- ▶ **For Grown-Ups: *Micah: What Does God Require of Us?* by Stephen Um**
This study guide will help you study and apply Micah more carefully outside of family worship.
[Amazon](#) | [ChristianBook.com](#)
- ▶ **For Kids: *Arlo and the Great Big Cover-Up* by Betsy Childs Howard**
As children see a picture of God's justice and mercy in Micah, this picture book (for ages 3-7 years) will help kids see the need for these things in their own lives.
[Amazon](#) | [ChristianBook.com](#)

Micah Listening Guide

Ages 2–4

Parents, each day before reading the Bible passage, instruct your toddler to listen for the Key Word:

“Listen for the word _____.”

- ▶ **Micah 1:** Lord
- ▶ **Micah 2:** Preach
- ▶ **Micah 3:** Prophets
- ▶ **Micah 4:** Zion
- ▶ **Micah 5:** Shepherd
- ▶ **Micah 6:** Wicked
- ▶ **Micah 7:** Faithful

Toddler Bible Reading Questions

Parents, ask your child these questions every day before reading the Bible passage. As you repeat them, your children will learn the answers.

- ▶ What book of the Bible are we reading today?
- ▶ Who was Micah? (A Prophet)
- ▶ Is Micah in the Old Testament or the New Testament?

Micah Listening Guide

Ages 5–6

Each day, listen for these words in the Bible and make a tally mark every time you hear them.

Lord	
Rebellion	
Israel	
King	
Zion	

Micah Listening Guide

Ages 7–10

*Each day, listen for these words or quotes as we read Micah.
When you hear one of these events, you can mark it off. Let's see
if you can fill your card!*

B	I	N	G	O
Bethlehem	Shepherd	"The word of the Lord"	Egypt	"Let's go up the mountain fo the Lord."
"Quit Your Preaching!"	Witness	FREE SPACE	Salvation	Enemy
Earth	Micah		Jacob	"Who is a God like you?"
Zion	"Act Justly"	Prophets	Babylon	King

Micah Listening Guide

Ages 11+

Each day, follow along in your Bible and listen for these events in Micah. When you hear one of these events, write down where to find it in Micah. Read that passage again on your own after family worship and write down what it teaches us about God.

Event	Where in Micah?	What Does This Teach Us About God?
<i>EXAMPLE:</i> “The word of the Lord that came to Micah”	1:1	God speaks to his people, even though they are rebelling against him.
God talks about false prophets.		
Many nations will say “Come, let’s go up to the mountain of the Lord.”		
God promises a shepherd King from Bethlehem.		
God reminds his people about the Exodus from Egypt.		

Family Worship Guide

Micah 1–7



God Centered Family

Day 1



Before Reading

Today we're going to read God's warning that he is coming to punish the Israelites for their sin. **As we read**, try to find out if Micah is happy or sad about this coming judgement.

Read Micah 1



Ask

- ▶ Who wrote this book?
- ▶ Micah 1 describes big destruction in Israel. Who is destroying? Who is being destroyed?
- ▶ This judgement is God's right response to sin. What does this tell us about what God is like? What does this tell us about God's view of sin?



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray for the just God to show your family their sin and destroy their idols (1:7).
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray for your church to boldly proclaim this news of coming judgement to the world.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray for the Ngada of Indonesia,* that missionaries would tell how they can escape God's coming judgement.



Sing

Suggested Hymn for the Week: "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" or "Jesus is Lord" by Keith and Kristyn Getty

The justice of God against sinners is a big theme in the book of Micah. "Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted" describes how this justice was perfectly satisfied at the cross of Christ.

"Jesus is Lord" describes the wonderful, joyful, just rule of King Jesus over all nations, the fulfillment of the greatest hope from the book of Micah.

Day 2



Before Reading

Today we're going to read another warning about God's coming judgement. **As we read**, listen for how the people of Israel responded to Micah's message.

Read Micah 2



Ask

- ▶ How did the people respond to this message of coming judgement? (2:6-11)
- ▶ Re-read the last verse. Who will be the new King of this stubborn, sinful people?
- ▶ God is still pursuing his uninterested people. Why does he do that? How else has God pursued sinful people?



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray for God to give your family a hunger for God's Word, unlike the people in Micah's day.
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray for your church's leaders to persevere in preaching the true Word of God.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray for the Ngada of Indonesia, that they would one day hear and believe the Word of God.



Sing

**For more information on the Ngada of Indonesia, see the People Group Focus sheet on page 10 of this packet.*

Day 3



Before Reading

Today we're going to read God's judgement of Israel's unfaithful leaders. **As we read**, listen for what kinds of leaders God is punishing.

Read Micah 3



Ask

- ▶ In this chapter, the attention turns to the leaders of God's people. Are these leaders good or bad?
- ▶ What does God promise will happen to these wicked leaders and false prophets? (3:5-7)
- ▶ How does God's promise in 2:13 (that he would be the good King of Israel) relate to this chapter's message of bad leaders?



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray for mom and dad, that they would lead your family in a just, righteous way.
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray that your church's leaders would remain faithful and not accept bribes or practice favoritism.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray for the Ngada of Indonesia, that God would send workers to them.



Sing

Day 4



Before Reading

Today we're going to read God's plan to restore Israel. **As we read**, remember God's promise in Micah 2 that he will be the King of his people. How is he keeping that promise in this chapter?

Read Micah 4



Ask

- ▶ This chapter includes both a warning of coming judgement and a promise that things will be put back together. Is God in control of both of these events?
- ▶ Who will worship God in this new, restored Kingdom? Is it just Israel? (4:1-2)
- ▶ Why did God allow his people to be exiled, just to bring them back again? (4:10)



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray that your family would "walk in the name of the Lord forever and ever" (4:5).
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray that your church would be a place that welcomes the weak.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray for the Ngada of Indonesia, that they would stream to Christ and walk in his ways (4:1-2).



Sing

Day 5



Before Reading

Today we're going to read Micah make a promise that a King will come from Israel to set them free from their enemies and reign over them forever. **As we read**, listen to find out where this King would be born.

Read Micah 5



Ask

- ▶ This chapter describes a mighty King who would come to rule over God's people. Where will he be born? (5:2)
- ▶ Who is this great King?
- ▶ How does this chapter describe Jesus' work as King? What do we learn about Jesus from this chapter?



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray that your home would be a place where Christ reigns as King today.
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray that every member of your church would fully give of themselves to spread God's Kingdom in your neighborhood and to the nations.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray that the Ngada of Indonesia would hear the good news that a King born in Bethlehem can save them from their sins.



Sing

Bonus Activity

Micah 5:2 is referenced twice in the New Testament to show that Jesus is the long-awaited great King who came from Bethlehem to save his people.

Read Matthew 2:1–12 and John 7:40–49 and make a list of all the different ways people responded to Jesus who came from Bethlehem. How should we respond to Jesus?

Day 6



Before Reading

The final section of Micah's book reminds Israel that they will be punished for their sin, but there will also be a great future, where things will be made right again (like we read about in chapters four and five). This chapter is written to sound like a lawsuit with God bringing a case (some Bibles say "lawsuit," others say "indictment") against guilty Israel. **As we read**, listen for what God requires from Israel.

Read Micah 6



Ask

- ▶ Is Israel innocent or guilty? Have they obeyed God?
- ▶ Why does God discipline his people? (6:9)
- ▶ What does the end of this chapter (6:13–16) tell us about living for sin? Is it ever worth it?



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray for God to help your family to act justly, love faithfulness, and walk humbly before God (6:8).
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray for your church to love the poor and disadvantaged.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray that the Ngada of Indonesia would see their guilt before God and find salvation in Christ.



Sing

Day 7



Before Reading

Today we're going to read Micah's final warning of judgement and promise that things will be made right again. **As we read**, listen for what Micah says God is like.

Read Micah 7



Ask

- ▶ Why is Micah sad? (7:1)
- ▶ Read the conclusion of the book again (7:18–20). Have everyone in the family share something amazing about God from this passage that makes you want to praise him.



Pray

- ▶ **For Your Family:** Pray for the forgiving God to forgive you for your sins. Pray that everyone in your family understands their sin and need for God's grace.
- ▶ **For Your Church:** Pray that your church would worship the one true God in spirit and truth tomorrow, as he is revealed in Micah 7:18–20.
- ▶ **For the Nations:** Pray that the Ngada of Indonesia would hear the good news of this sin-forgiving mighty God of justice. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few (Luke 10:2).



Sing

Bonus Weekend Activity

A big theme in Micah is the RESTORATION of God's people after judgement brought about by their sin. Restoration means making things right again. This weekend, your family can show RESTORATION by creating your own puzzles and putting them back together.

- ▶ Give every family member a blank sheet of paper and crayons or markers. Everyone should draw their own picture.
- ▶ Once everyone is done, use scissors to cut the pictures into puzzle pieces.
- ▶ Cut your own picture into a bunch of little pieces.
- ▶ Give everyone someone else's puzzle and have them "restore" the picture. Whoever has your puzzle is going to have a much harder time!

Explain to your kids that our sin has distorted everything about our lives. Because of sin, our lives are even more messed up than these puzzles.

Only God can restore us (put our puzzles back together). Only God is smart enough, kind enough, powerful enough, and wise enough to put us right again.

Micah promised God's people that restoration was coming. Today, we know that restoration has come — through Jesus Christ. It's only through faith in Jesus that we can be forgiven of our sins and RESTORED to a right relationship with God.

One day, Jesus is coming back to "make all things new" (Revelation 21:5), to finish his restoring work and to set everything right again.

“Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the LORD requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God.”

Micah 6:8

People Group Focus

Pray for the Ngada of Indonesia



Fast Facts About the Ngada:

- ▶ Population: 85,500
- ▶ Religion: Roman Catholicism and Tribal Religions/Ancestor Worship
- ▶ Farmers, primarily growing corn and other grains.
- ▶ Rich culture, producing beautiful art and unique architecture.
- ▶ Ngada villages frequently have monoliths — tall stone structures that they believe give them spiritual power from their dead ancestors.

Learn More About the Ngada:

- ▶ PeopleGroups.org
- ▶ Britannica
- ▶ [World Monuments Fund Report on Ngada Villages](#)
- ▶ [Tour an Ngada Village on Google Maps](#)

Praying for the Ngada:

- ▶ Roman Catholic missionaries have been active among the Ngada for over 100 years, but Protestant missionaries have never brought biblical Christianity to the Ngada. Pray for the light of the gospel to break into the darkness of the Ngada.
- ▶ Pray that God would send workers to preach his gospel to the Ngada (Luke 10:2).
- ▶ Pray that God would save many people from the Ngada tribe who will praise Christ for all of eternity (Revelation 7:9).

**“Sing a new song to the LORD;
let the *whole earth*
sing to the LORD.”**

Psalms 96:1

Starting Family Worship

A Guide for Parents

Family worship is the practice of regularly gathering your family to read the Bible, pray, and sing God's praises.

While there is no command in the Bible that you must have family worship every night, Christians have been practicing family worship for centuries. It is an important way to make God the center of your home.

Why is family worship valuable? It forms habits — your child will be exposed to God's Word at least once every day. It establishes priority and foundation — your child will never know a day when God's Word is not regularly proclaimed in their homes.

Make family worship a routine — do it at the same time and in roughly the same format every day. When you have family worship, invite guests to join as well (e.g., when you have guests for dinner, invite them to family worship), this will lead to great conversations with both non-Christians and Christians.

Our family worship guides have four components. Here's some tips for making the most of each of them.

“ 1. Read the Bible

No one has to preach a sermon. Just read the Bible. The best way to build Bible literacy in our children is by reading the Bible to them. Never let a day go by without your child having the Word of God proclaimed over them.

Our family worship guides walk through books of the, usually alternating between Old Testament and New Testament books.

? 2. Ask Questions

Ask questions to help your child understand and apply what they just read.

In our family worship guides, these questions generally move from comprehension questions (“What did we just read?”) to interpretation questions (“What did it mean? What does it reveal about God?”) to application questions (“What does this mean for my life?”). With that in mind, it makes sense to start with your youngest child and work your way up.

For toddlers, you can even ask more basic questions that repeat every day (e.g., “What book of the Bible are we reading now?” “Who wrote this book of the Bible?” “Is this in the Old Testament or the New Testament?”).

Even if your 18-month-old can't answer the questions, you're creating the habit and communicating that God's Word has value, even if it can't be fully understood yet.

3. Pray in Response

Someone (usually the father) prays. When you pray, be sure to praise God for what he revealed about himself in the passage of Scripture that was read, pray for God's work in and through your family.

Be sure to pray for the nations. This is something that Christ commanded (Luke 10:2) and compassion demands. We long for people from every tribe, tongue, and nation to worship Christ for eternity (Revelation 7:9–10) and we pray accordingly.

To help you pray for the nations, our family worship guides highlight a different unreached, unengaged people group every month. You can print out the People Group Focus sheet and put it in a prominent place in your home to help remind your children to pray for God's work among the nations.

Our family worship guides have three prayer points for every day: one for your family, one for your local church family, and one for the nations.

4. Sing in Response

Whether everyone in the family is a horrible singer or all of your children are prodigies, God is glorified when we sing to him.

Our family worship guides recommend two song choices each week. Singing the same song for a full week is a great way to help the children learn the words.

You can sing a capella, along with a recording, or along with an instrument (if someone in the family is able to play without being a distraction).