



## Part Four: Walk Humbly

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Guest Speaker

# TALKING WALKING POINT

## Leaders' Guide



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**Talk** together about the glory of God's kingdom. –Psalm 145:11  
Love the Lord your God and **walk** in all his ways. –Joshua 22:5

## Questions for Discussion & Reflection

- 1 What from Sunday's message interested you? ...made sense to you? ...confused you?  
...intrigued you? ...upset you? ...encouraged you? ...and **why**?
- 2 Read Micah 6:1-3. God accuses his people of saying that He wearies them with His demands. Micah recounts the sorts of sacrifices God's people viewed as their burdensome religious duties (v. 6-7). Then, in v. 8, Micah reminds God's people of the **heart attitudes and actions** which **truly** please God. "God has shown you what is good, what He requires: do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God." On the following continuum, mark how **you've** tended to view the "obligations" of the Christian life:  

● Burdensome Religious Duties

● Righteous, Loyal Humble walk with God
- 3 In what ways are sacrifices—even **costly** ones—**easier** than living a righteous, loyal, humble life?
- 4 How do you see this principle in play in Psalm 50:7-15? What does this tell you about our God?
- 5 **Creating "God Space"**: "God Space" is where cynics, skeptics, and spiritually curious people can **safely** raise their questions, reservations, and doubts because we have listened well and demonstrated love in **practical, authentic** ways.
  - Think of a friend or family member who likely views Christianity as burdensome, religious duty.
  - Recast the complaint of Micah 6:6-7 and the truth of v. 8 in contemporary terms they might use.
  - What questions might you ask them which could lead to an opportunity to share the insights you've learned from Micah. Begin praying for them, and then make plans to grab coffee together.
- 6 What do we learn about the humble Christian walk from Ephesians 4:1 & 17; 5:2, 8 & 15?

## Application-Challenge

- Realize that God **cannot** be appeased through "Micah 6:6-7" sorts of sacrifices and duties! Instead, humble yourself and come to Christ. His free offer is found in Matthew 11:28-30.
- Daily remember the Gospel, read your Bible, evaluate your life, and repent when you sin.
- Humbly walk with God. As you experience God's love, love others in the same way. As you love others, make sure it expresses true biblical justice.

**1** Standard “softball” opening question. If any points of the sermon confused folks, take a few moments to review the Sermon Outline/Notes to clear up an confusion.

**2** Open the Bible to Micah 6:1-3. Set up for the Bible reading by reading the statement in the first line: (“God accuses his people...”), and then ask a group member to read v. 1-3 aloud to the group.

Then, set up for the reading of v. 6-7 by reading the statement in the second line: (“Micah recounts the ...burdensome religious duties”), and then have a group member read v. 6-7.

Next, set up for the reading of v. 8 by reading the statement found on the third and fourth lines: (“Micah reminds God’s people...walk humbly with God.”) and then have a group member read v. 8.

Finally, ask each group member to mark the continuum with how they tend to view the obligations of the Christian life. When everyone has marked his continuum, ask for volunteers to share where they marked their line, and why. Not everyone has to share his answer, but do give timid folks time to engage.

**3** Possible answers include:

- In our affluent society, writing a check often is less painful than loving difficult people.
- Financial gifts get us a tax break—or, if the gift was big enough, our name on the new building!
- Once the check is written, you can dismiss other requests, simply saying: “I’ve already given.”
- Some people use sacrificial giving as a means of penance/self-salvation (“Look what I did!”)
- Writing a check doesn’t require humility.

**4** • Have group members open their Bibles to Psalm 50, ask the first question (“How do you see this principle...”), and then have a group member slowly read v. 7-13, while other group members chime in with answers to the question.

• Then repeat this process for v. 14-15.

• Finally, ask: “What does this tell you about our God?”

Psalm 50 pulls the rug out from under the typical view of God and church that he wants your money.

**5** Read the definition of “God Space”, and then work through the questions below.

First let each group member (silently) fix in his mind the person who needs this perspective on religious duty.

Next, as a group, come up with the most winsome wordings for the second and third bullet items.

Later, when you close the group meeting in prayer, pray for each group member to take the initiative to have a “God Space” conversation with their friend.

**6** The key verb, “walk”, appears five times:

- 4:1 – Walk in a manner worthy
- 4:17 – Walk no longer as the gentiles walk
- 5:2 – Walk in love, just as Christ also loved you
- 5:8 – You were formerly darkness but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of light
- 5:15 – Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise

# Sermon Outline

What do the false religions of the world require of followers?

Woe to those who scheme iniquity,  
who work out evil on their beds!  
When morning comes, they do it,  
for it is in the power of their hands.  
Micah 2:1

What does humanity require of others to be approved?

Therefore thus says the LORD,  
“Behold, I am planning against this family  
a calamity from which you cannot remove  
your necks; and you will not walk haughtily,  
for it will be an evil time.”  
Micah 2:3-4

What does Yahweh require?

God is **not** after \_\_\_\_\_

God **is** after \_\_\_\_\_

Running start to Micah

Micah

Rebuked Israel and Judah for their wickedness

Promised judgment was coming

Judgment came!

God's formal indictment announced

What approach is appropriate?

What can we bring as we approach God?

What does He require? Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly...with your God

What is it to walk with God? How do we define what it is to “walk with God?”

Hear now what the Lord is saying, “Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Listen, you mountains, to the indictment of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, because the Lord has a case against His people; even with Israel He will dispute. My people, what have I done to you, and how have I wearied you? Answer Me. Indeed, I brought you up from the land of Egypt and ransomed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron and Miriam. My people, remember now what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and from Shittim to Gilgal, so that you might know the righteous acts of the Lord.”  
Micah 6:1-5

Ephesians—a New Testamental Parallel

Application

Gospel

For those who have trusted Christ

Let us humbly walk with God

With what shall I come to the Lord and bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, with yearling calves? Does the Lord take delight in thousands of rams, in ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?  
Micah 6:6-7

He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?  
Micah 6:8

## Digging Deeper in Your Daily Quiet Time

**"Five Question Bible Study"** (see page below) *is a simple way to study any passage.*  
*We can use it to learn to walk in humility...*

**Monday**—Read Psalm 37:1-6. Mark all the commands and what results from that obedience.

**Tuesday**—Read Psalm 37:7-15. Contrast the humble and the wicked. Of what does v. 8 warn?

**Wednesday**—Read Psalm 37:16-22. Note the command of v. 16 and the rationales of v. 17-22.

**Thursday**—Read Psalm 37:23-34. Which of these warnings/encouragements do you most need to heed?

**Friday**—Read Psalm 37:35-40. Based on your current lifestyle, will you have staying power?

**Saturday**—***In preparation for worshipping the risen Lord with your church family,***  
study **Matthew 13:1-23.**

Bible Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



What idea particularly strikes me from this text? [Note in which verse(s) it is found.]



What question does this text raise in my mind—and how would **this text** answer it?



What about Jesus Christ—his character and/or his redemption—relates to this text?



What action must I take as a result of this text? Be concrete and specific.



With whom will I share what I learned from this text? [and what was their response?]