



Micah 6:1-8 - What God really wants

Micah 6v1–8 exposes Israel's mistaken belief that God is a demanding taskmaster. In a courtroom scene, He reminds His people of His gracious history: rescuing them, providing for them, and protecting them. He is no tyrant - their complaint is unfounded. Instead, the real issue is their hollow religion. God desires relationship, not ritual; a faithful heart, not external performance. His call is simple yet searching: act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with Him. Matthew 23 shows this same contrast between empty religiosity and the faithful, humble life perfectly embodied - and made possible - by Jesus.

1. Where/when am I tempted to think of God as a taskmaster rather than a gracious Father who has rescued and sustained me?
2. How might intentionally remembering God's past faithfulness reshape my posture of gratitude and trust this week? How might we do that together?
3. In what areas of life do I need to look to Christ's perfect
 - (a) justice,
 - (b) mercy/steadfast love, and
 - (c) humility as the pattern for my own steps?What might each practically look like?
4. How does knowing that, as well as being our example in these things, at the cross Jesus both forgives my failure - and is also changing and helping us - free me to pursue justice, mercy, and humility without fear? How does the work of his Spirit help us?