

Micah 6:8

Lesson and Memory Cards

Preparation

Cut out the strip in the translation you wish to use, and give it to your student(s).

Questions in the lesson can be answered orally. If you wish to assign written work, answers can be written on the reverse side.

Please note that these lessons include a three-part craft. Ideas are listed in Lesson 4; and the craft is listed as part of the lesson in 4, 6, and 8. You may wish to prepare early. You may also do the craft at anytime that fits your schedule best.

Lesson One

1. We are going to learn about Micah 6:8 and memorize it.
2. Start by reading the passage two to three times.
3. Why do you think this is one of the most famous verses in the Old Testament?
4. Read the verse again. Circle five to ten of the most important words.
5. Practice finding the book of Micah in the Old Testament. Find this verse.
6. If you have more than one Bible in your house, practice finding Micah in several different Bibles.
7. Memory Work: Repeat the passage several times reading Memory Card #1. (The lesson number is in the upper right hand corner.)

Lesson Two

1. Andy woke up and found a note from her mother that said:
“Hi Andy. I ran to the neighbor’s for a short time and will be back before our dentist appointment. Please brush your teeth, put on a clean shirt, and brush your hair.”

Questions:

Why did Andy’s mother write a note?

What three things did she want Andy to do?

2. Let’s look again at our verse. The first two lines are the stem. They tell us that God has a requirement for us. The last three lines tell us the three things he requires us to do. What are those three things?
3. When you circled your words yesterday, did you circle these three?
 - justly (or justice)
 - mercy (or kindness)
 - humbly?

What other words did you circle?

Tomorrow we will look more closely at those three things God requires of us.

4. Memory Work: Use memory card #2 and review Micah 6:8 today. Each day we remove several words from the cards.

Lesson Three

1. Do you remember the three things God requires us to do?

2. The first one is to “to act justly.” Some translations say “to do justice.” These both convey the same idea.

- One is an adverb: justly
- The other is a noun: justice
- We can also use the adjective: just

Just, justly, and justice use different parts of speech (adjective, adverb, and noun) to communicate the idea of behavior and actions that are:

right, fair, good, proper

Did you notice which part of speech is missing? Verb. In our language we don't have an active verb form for this word. (Advanced grammar note: “Justify” is a passive verb form.) That is why the word “do” or “act” is included.

3. Now look at the opposite: what is unjust behavior or injustice?

Kara and Tiffany went to the store. Tiffany bought a chocolate milk for \$1. Kara thought it looked good, so she bought a chocolate milk too. But the clerk charged her \$2.

Was the clerk's behavior just?

Of course it might have been a mistake. (People do make mistakes sometimes.) But what if the clerk often charged different people more or less money for the same thing?

4. Can you think of other examples of injustice? How might these people show justice or injustice?

An umpire, police officer, teacher, judge, friend playing a game

5. Memory Work: Use memory card #3 and review Micah 6:8 today.

Lesson Four

1. Let's review the three things Micah 6:8 tells us to do.

2. What did we say “justly” or “justice” refers to?

3. Today we are going to begin a craft activity to help us remember the three important requirements. We will write yesterday's word: justly (or justice, or act justly, etc.)

Here are some ideas for your craft project:

- Painted rocks (requires flat rocks and paints)
- Calligraphy (older students who do calligraphy)
- Write in Bubble Font (5th grade and above)
- Painters Tape Art (thicker paper, painters tape, paint)
- Microsoft Word Art
- Wood Engraving Kit
- Write Around (easiest to do with minimal preparation, least impressive once it is finished)

Today do the word “justly” with your word art.

4. More About Justice

Think of stories you have read or movies you have watched. What characters behaved justly? Which behaved unjustly?

5. Memory Work: Use memory card #4 and review Micah 6:8 today.

Lesson Five

1. Today we are going to look at God's second requirement in Micah 6:8. First, can you recall the first requirement?

2. What does it mean to love mercy?

compassion, kindness, leniency with those who are in error

3. How do you feel when someone is kind to you?

4. Describe the opposite of mercy.

5. Mercy is more than just being kind. It has the connotation of being kind to someone who may not deserve it.

Example 1:

Waylin was told he had to have his math homework done before he could play outside. Half-way through he got bored and began to dawdle. But slowly he worked his way through the lesson. He had only a few more problems to do when he got a call from his cousin. They were going some place fun in a few minutes and he was invited to come along. Do you think Waylin's mother should have mercy on him? What are some reasons that she should or should not? How should she decide?

Example 2:

Remember a few days ago we talked about a sales clerk that might have made a mistake and charged the wrong amount? What do you do if someone makes a mistake? Should you show them mercy? What if they make a mistake because they were careless? Does that change anything?

6. Can you think of a time when you were shown mercy?

7. Memory Work: Use memory card #5 and review Micah 6:8 today.

Lesson Six

1. True Story:

Dr. Robert Gates, a philosophy professor at a seminary, told his students that Micah 6:8 was a summary of God's Law. One of his students disagreed vehemently. When asked why, he said it was too easy to follow this one verse and the will of God was much more complex. Dr. Gates challenged him to make it his goal to obey this verse for a week. After a few days the student came to his office. "I agree with you now," he said. "This is the hardest verse in the Bible to follow. In order to do it, you must have the heart of God."

Would you say Micah 6:8 is an easy verse or a hard verse to follow? Do you agree it reflects God's Law?

2. One of the challenges of this verse is that "justice" and "mercy" appear to be opposites.

Think About It

If someone was arrested for a crime, would they want a judge who was known for justice or known for mercy? Would the victim of the crime want that judge to have justice or mercy?

3. The Perfect Judge

A judge should be both perfect in mercy and perfect in justice. Is that hard to do? Who is the only perfect judge?

How can you, an imperfect person, best live this verse? Put the emphasis on the verb. We are to DO justly at all times. While doing justly, we should also love mercy. Mercy tempers justice.

4. Craft Time

Make the second part of the craft you started in Activity Four, but this time write "love mercy."

5. Memory Work: Use memory card #6 and review Micah 6:8 today.

Lesson Seven

1. Before we look at the third requirement, review the first two.

2. What is the final requirement?

What does it mean to walk humbly?

not arrogant, able to defer

Being humble is the opposite of being arrogant or proud. Someone who is humble can defer to others or let others have their way instead their own way.

4. Do you think there is a difference between “walking humbly” and “walking humbly with God?”

Does walking with God make it harder or easier to be humble?

Consider the difference between faith and religion. Does religion make a person humble or arrogant?

5. Can a person be both stubborn and humble?

6. Memory Work: Use memory card #7 and review Micah 6:8 today.

Lesson Eight

1. Craft Idea:

Make the third part - “Walk Humbly with God”

2. We considered the statement that Micah 6:8 summarizes the law of God in the Old Testament.

- We noted that this verse is easier to read than to live by.
- We contrasted justice and mercy and how only a perfect judge could be perfect in all situations.
- And if it wasn't hard enough to be perfect to live by the first two requirements, we should also be humble.
- These few words are a very tall order.
- If you were going to give yourself a grade on how well you lived your life according to Micah 6:8, what grade would you give?

3. Micah 6:8 teaches us not only the right way to live, but it is also a standard that shows each of us how imperfect we are.

While this verse does demonstrate God's law, if we had to live perfectly by this verse to get into heaven, none of us would.

Micah 6:8 provides a mirror to show why we need a savior.

4. Did Jesus live Micah 6:8?

He is the Perfect One who is able to do justly and love mercy as he forgives us and works in our lives.

5. Can you fill in all the words using Memory Card #8? Great job learning the verse!

Micah 6:8

KJV	<p>He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 Micah 6:8</p>	<p>He hath shewed thee, O man, what is and what doth the require of thee, but to do and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 Micah 6:8</p>
NKJ	<p>He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 Micah 6:8</p>	<p>He has shown you, O man, what is And what does the require of you But to do To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 Micah 6:8</p>
NIV	<p>He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1 Micah 6:8</p>	<p>He has shown you, O mortal, what is And what does the require of you? To act and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 Micah 6:8</p>
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NKJ	He And But To And Micah 7	He Micah 8
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