

## The Faithfulness of a Good Shepherd

Micah 6:8; 7:18-20

With Micah's last section of prophecy, we find a question that he has subtly been working to answer throughout the whole book: Who is a God Like You? We also find answers to this question within this section. God reveals where all other religious effort falls short and where He alone can deliver!

- The Delusion of Religion – Man is not like God (Micah 6)
  - Man fails to do justice
  - Man fails to love mercy
  - Man fails to walk humbly with his God
  
- Who is a God like You – Reasons for Faith (Micah 7)
  - He Pardons Sin
  - He Delights in Mercy
  - He Keeps His Promises
  
- God is indeed the Good Shepherd!



1. For living the Christian life, Forgiveness is not a request it is a command. However, God did not leave us to forgive others on our own – He gave us His Holy Spirit to guide and convict us of our sin and our need to forgive. He also gave us many Godly examples from within the pages of Scripture. Try to start looking for examples of forgiveness being demonstrated or referenced as you do your daily devotional – record them and reflect on what you think God may be attempting to teach you about Himself, through those examples – I doubt you have to go too far!
  
2. Are you harboring a wrong that someone has committed against you in your heart? Is there a rift between you and that person that you wish you could cross? To resume a healthy relationship, someone needs to take the first step – perhaps there is something you need ask forgiveness for as well? Maybe you can take the initial step of asking for forgiveness and bringing restoration to the relationship – Just remember to do it graciously, don't expect the other person to reciprocate just because you took the first step – you can give them your forgiveness even if they never come begging for it. Remember that forgiveness is a choice and a commitment, but love should be where we go to get our motivation to forgive. Try reading through 1 Corinthians 13 – what does this love chapter of the Bible have to say about forgiveness?
  
3. So, we've finished our study of the faithfulness of the Good Shepherd within the book of Micah. However, that same Shepherd comes into greater focus within the New Testament. Perhaps while Micah is still fresh on your mind, a good study exercise would be to do a word search for Shepherd within the New Testament – what do you find? How do the descriptions you encounter fill in some of features of our Savior that had not been revealed to Micah?