

For the Living of These Days

Session 11: Micah – Walking humbly with your God

*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^[u] with your God. Micah 6:8 NIV*

God's requirements found in Micah 6:8

Compare with Deuteronomy 10:12-13, Isaiah 58:6-11, Hosea 6:6

Micah makes sure that people know that God connects faith with action.

There is nothing passive about these requirements. We cannot just sit back, on our laurels and believe for a moment that we are fulfilling God's requirements of us for faithful living.

- Act Justly
- Love Mercy
- Walk humbly with your God

What does it mean to walk with God

The "walk" metaphor is used often in Scripture to describe the overall direction one's life is heading. Examples:

- Genesis 3:8
- Genesis 5:24
- Leviticus 26:12
- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Psalms 23:4
- Isaiah 30:21
- Isaiah 9:2
- John 8:12
- I John 1:5-7

The hymn "Trust and Obey" might come to mind:

"When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey."

How do walk HUMBLY with God?

To "walk humbly with God" is the basis for loving mercy and doing justice.

The difference between humility and humiliation

Sayings such as "He is eating 'humble' pie," "Well, that experience will put her in her place, it will humble her," "That brought him down a notch – how humbling," "Humble yourself or life will do it for you," seem to connote that humility is a state of being put down or diminished in importance, significance or value.

Humiliation:

1. The act of humiliating; degradation.
2. The state of being humiliated or disgraced; shame.
3. A humiliating condition or circumstance.

Humility:

1. The quality of not being proud because you are aware of your bad qualities.
2. The feeling or attitude that you have no special importance that makes you better than others; lack of pride:

Humiliation is imposed upon someone whereas humility is a person's choice.

Can you think of an example of being humiliated and one of being humble?

What different feelings did you experience in being humiliated vs being and acting humbly?

What the scripture say about being humble?

II Chronicles 7:14

Matthew 5:5 (NLT)

James 4:6-10

Philippians 2:3-11

1. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit

Matthew 6:2, Matthew 6:5 and Matthew 6:16

2. Values others more highly than yourself

John 15:12-13

3. Care about the interest of others

Galatians 6:2

4. Use your position for the advantage of others

Philippians 2:6

5. Be willing to take the lowest position (Wesley Covenant Prayer)

Philippians 2:3-7

Why is humility so important for us as followers of Jesus?

Why is it so difficult to walk (live) humbly?

“True humility does not know that it is humble. If it did, it would be proud from the contemplation of so fine a virtue.” — **Martin Luther**

Wesley's Three Simple Rules:

1. Do Good
2. Do No Harm
3. Stay in Love with God

A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O Glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Thou art mine, and I am thine.

So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in
heaven.

Amen.