



### **Nahum: Extraordinary Justice**

**Background** – This series is designed to help people get to know the minor prophets and to learn about God’s heart and message for us today.

**Key Verse** - [Nahum 1:7-8](#)

**Take Away** - When we understand that God both punishes and forgives, we understand our purpose.

#### **Sermon Guide:**

#### **I. Understanding God’s Character Revealed Through Nahum**

- A. Intro: Difficulty in understanding God’s character revealed through Nahum
  - 1. Summary of Jonah (Jonah 3:1-5)
  - 2. Summary of Nahum (Nahum 1:7-8)
- B. Isn’t God always good like a nice grandpa?  
(Nahum 1:3)
- C. When God gets angry, does He lose control?  
Nahum 1:2  
Nahum 2:13 & 3:15)
- D. Does God punish people today?  
John 9:1-3  
John 19:10-11
- E. Should I rejoice in people's suffering?  
Nahum 3:19
- F. When we understand both God’s anger and love:
  - 1. Think: We understand the moral framework in the universe that gives us purpose.
  - 2. Feel: We take comfort in Jesus’s death on the cross to forgive our sins.
  - 3. Do: We love our neighbors in meaningful ways.

#### **II. Family/Small Group Discussion**

- 1) Pray – That we will develop a love for the Scriptures and that God’s character revealed through the prophets would transform our hearts.
- 2) Briefly review the sermon outline. Have people read aloud a few of the scriptures covered and explain why they are important and meaningful.

3) Discuss together:

1. What were your early thoughts on God's character? A loving God? A forgiving God? A judging God? How have your views of God changed over time?
2. Read Nahum 1:2. What adjectives are used to describe God? How do these descriptions align with your view of Him?
3. In 1:7-8, contrast how God treats those who trust Him with those who do not. What are your thoughts on the difference?
4. God was very patient with the nation of Assyria, allowing them to pursue evil ways for generations before God brought them to justice. Is it hard for you to wait for God's patient judgement? When you see people or nations go unpunished for their crimes, how does it make you feel?
5. What can you do about things in your sphere of influence that you know simply "are not right"? In what instances do you have to trust God to ultimately set things right in His time?