

The Unexpected

Advent Family Discussion Guide

Session One: The Hope

Micah 5:2-4

Description

The prophet Micah gives Israel hope while they are under the threat of violence and oppression, sharing God's promise that from the insignificant and inconsequential town of Bethlehem will come the world's greatest blessing, who is Christ the Lord. When the Messiah, the Lord Jesus, comes, His greatness will span the entire world.

How to use

This session is offered for adults on RightNow Media and comes with a companion discussion guide. This guide that you hold is designed for families to discuss as they embrace the hope of Advent this season. Adults and teenage children may benefit from the study session videos. Younger children will likely prefer simply covering the items in this devotional guide. Parents would be wise to preview the videos before showing them to their children.

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How can you tell a person is sad or has no hope?

When have you felt sad or hopeless?



The people of Israel faced something very hopeless. They had disobeyed God over and over. Because of this, God said another nation would defeat them. But then God gave them a message of hope.

Read [Micah 5:2-5](#) together.

What promise did God give to Israel in verse 2? (*A ruler of Israel would come.*)

From where would this ruler of Israel come? (*Bethlehem*) Who is this prophesied ruler? (*Jesus*) What other king came from Bethlehem? (*David*)

Bethlehem was a very small place, but it was the home of King David and the future birthplace of Jesus. David was not expected to be king of Israel, and even Jesus was born in very humble circumstances. How does this remind us that God cares about small things?

In what ways do you sometimes feel small? How does it feel that God cares for you?

In verse 4, Micah says this ruler would be a shepherd. Jesus calls Himself the good Shepherd in John 10:11. What makes Jesus a good Shepherd?



In verse 5, Micah explains that this prophesied ruler – Jesus – would be a Person of peace. How does the hope of Jesus bring you peace?

Close in prayer by thanking God for the hope Jesus brings.