

# MICAH 6 : 8

*True religion - And what does the Lord require of you?*

## BIBLE STUDY



### STARTER:

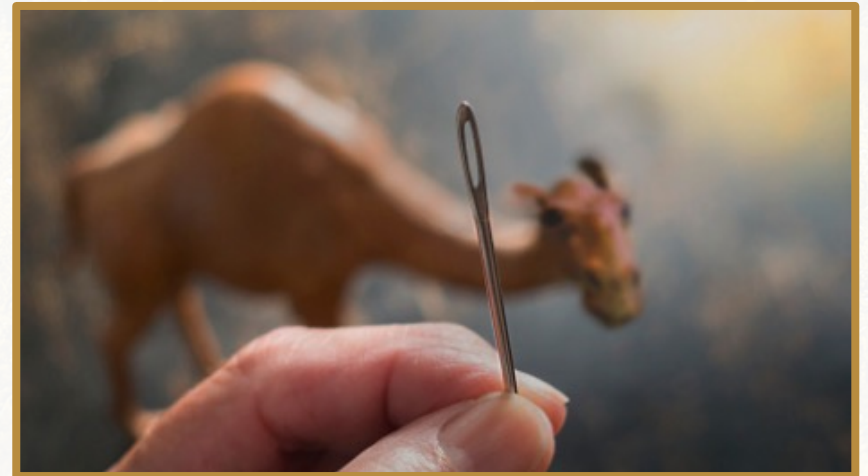
If someone asked you 'what is true religion?' how would you answer?

This week we are looking at the second part of **Micah 6 : 8**  
'And what does the Lord require of you?'

As we considered last week how God showed us what is good, we now want to reflect on how God would like us to respond as we seek to follow him.

### Read Matthew 19 : 16-30

- By today's standards of Christianity, do you think the rich young man would have been considered good?
- What do you think the man had wrong as he asked his initial question? Look at **Ephesians 2 : 8**.
- What is Jesus teaching us from this story about what true religion is about?



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Despite such an abundance of biblical teaching about what true religion is about, it is something which seems to be missed so often by so many Christians.

Time and again, people miss the truth in all their efforts and activities. We can feel as if we are being most spiritual when we are 'busy for God'.



### The book of Micah is a reminder of this. Read Micah 6 : 6-8.

- For the Jewish people, the single most important thing in life was to 'come before the Lord' (**v6**) in worship. At this time, this usually meant bringing something to offer as a sacrifice – as referred to in **verse 6 and 7**. As Micah considers the ways in which he might show the commitment of his heart, what do you think he is really asking from his questions in these verses?
- **Read Amos 5 : 21-24**. What do we learn about how God feels if our external efforts are not matched internally?
- How do people try to 'earn' God's approval in a more modern context?
- 'He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.' (**v8**). What makes the three requirements in this verse different from what Micah suggested in **verses 6 and 7**?

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## GOING DEEPER

- Read **Matthew 23 : 23-25**. Who is Jesus addressing? Why is this significant, bearing in mind what these people were seen to represent?
- How is Jesus making the same point as Micah did?
- What does God look for as we present our gifts to him? Look at **1 Samuel 16 : 7** and at **Psalms 51 : 17**
- Why are honesty and repentance so important before we can be used by God? What does God promise us as we seek to put him first?
- Look at **Acts 2 : 38** | **Acts 3 : 19** | **2 Corinthians 3 : 18**



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## LISTEN | PRAY

### LISTEN

What does the Lord require of you?



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XonFoO\\_gWM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XonFoO_gWM)

### PRAY

Pray as you close that you would use what you have studied today to do a 'heart check'. Are there areas that God is showing you where you are seeking to earn his approval by your actions?

Thank him for his promise of transformation that comes when we seek to honour him with our whole heart.