

Passage: Micah 6:1-8

**"He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."** Micah 6:8

What God requires

Despite the many blessings we receive from God every day, we see ourselves never showing enough gratitude and taking things for granted. God's patient and loving ways are testimonies to the fact that we are not nearly grateful enough for the blessings in our daily lives. The Israelites are a perfect example of not being grateful. Although God sent Moses to safely lead the Israelites out of Egypt, they continued to betray God. When Aaron built an idol for the Israelites, they worshipped it without even thinking about the fact that God delivered them safely from Egypt.

God continues to be kind to his forgetful people every day. We often forget God during the high times of our life, taking credit and all the glory to ourselves. Rather than being self-centered, we should remember God in all that we do. Our faith must make a difference in how we live and how we treat others. Because all the great things we go through in life are gifts from God. As people in life come and go, God's eternal love for us will always exist.

Setting aside a few hours on a Sunday or a donation for a charity will not be enough. We can go through the motions, often looking very religious, but we are just fooling ourselves with regard to true worship. We must be careful that our good activities are not mere chores that have become a ritual without any meaning. God is not against our tithes and church attendance but bits and pieces of religious activity is not what He wants. He wants us to worship Him with our undivided attention, hearts that reflect His mercy and justice, hearts that depend on Him each day of our lives.

Prayer: Lord God, teach us to love you and worship you in ways that are appropriate to your holiness and your majesty. Teach us your justice and empower us to be faithful to your expectations. We are humbled each day by the countless blessings and love you shower on us. Thank you for entrusting us with a task as important as your mission in this world.
