

Missing the Point

Has a friend ever completely let you down? Maybe they gossiped about you or deserted you to hang out with someone else. It's the worst. And when (or if) they finally come to their senses and start to feel bad, they try to make it up to you in all sorts of ways: by showering you with attention, saving you a spot at lunch, or buying you coffee. While these things are nice, what you really wanted in the first place wasn't a free cup of coffee; you wanted a trustworthy friend.

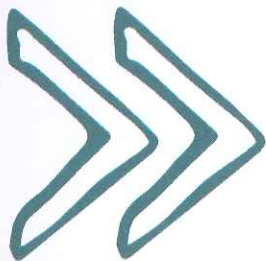
In the book of Micah, this same scenario happened between God and the people who said they loved him. They abandoned him and rebelled against him. Then, in a desperate attempt to make it up to him, the people tried all sorts of sacrifices and rituals to make it up to God. But they completely missed the point. What God really wanted wasn't their last-minute, feel-bad sacrifices; he wanted their hearts. So God sent Micah to get that message to them, to bring them back to the basics of how to follow God. The highlight of Micah's message is the following verse:

"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).

Over the next several weeks, we're going to take a look at what it really means to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God. Not in a make-it-up-to-God kind of way, but in a give-our-hearts-to-God kind of way.

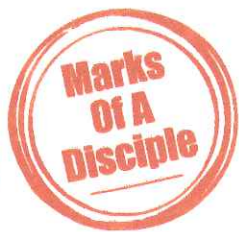
**SO LET'S GET
STARTED.**

How It Works



This book includes four weeks of journal pages to challenge the way you understand God's expectations. Each week takes you through six days of questions to get you thinking, Bible studies to shift your perspective, and challenges to stretch you out of your comfort zone. Then, on the seventh day of the week, you'll get a break to recharge for the next section. It'll help you get into a rhythm of learning, growing, and putting that knowledge into action.

Throughout this journal, you'll also find the **MARKS OF A DISCIPLE**. These are things that Christ-followers are committed to and have in common, like connecting with God through prayer, applying his Word to our lives, serving without personal agendas, managing God's gifts, and many other things.



Remember, you'll get out of this book what you put into it. The challenges you'll encounter won't always be easy—they're designed to stretch you! Take a risk and do your best to engage each day with energy and passion. When we make ourselves available to God, he'll transform us and use us in ways that will blow our minds!

