



**Growth Group Questions
November 9, 2025
“Try These Three Things”**

CONTEXT

Micah prophesied during the reigns of King Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah and around the same time as Isaiah and Hosea. The people of Israel and Judah had forgotten the covenantal faithfulness of God. In our text God brings a lawsuit against the people and tells them to “listen” to what He has to say. The scene is an outdoor courtroom where the mountains serve as witnesses.

God reminds Israel of the redemptive works that He had done for them. God had brought them up out of the land of Egypt. God had given them leadership in Moses and Aaron. God had helped them in their journeys and always provided.

God’s actions should have inspired grateful obedience. Instead, the people turned away from God and simply expected God’s mercy, even as they rebelled against God and lived disobedient lives.

At first the people have nothing to say in response to God, and then they come up with overexaggerated sacrifices thinking they can somehow “buy or earn” God’s favor. They did not understand that what God really wanted from them was their obedience and not their sacrifices.

Micah 6:8 makes it clear what God desires from the people. There are three points. “To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” These commands are similar to what we read in Deuteronomy 10:12–13, and Jesus will repeat them in Matthew 23:23. Caring for the least of these and being aware of people that are struggling has always been a part of God’s message for His people.

SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:1-8

¹ Listen to what the LORD says: “Stand up, plead my case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. ² “Hear, you mountains, the LORD’s accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging charge against Israel.

³ “My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. ⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. ⁵ My people, remember what Balak king of Moab plotted and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.”

⁶ With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly^[a] with your God.

Jeremiah 22:15-17

¹⁵ “Does it make you a king to have more and more cedar? Did not your father have food and drink? He did what was right and just, so all went well with him. ¹⁶ He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?” declares the LORD. ¹⁷ “But your eyes and your heart are set only on dishonest gain, on shedding innocent blood and on oppression and extortion.”

Luke 6:36

³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

James 3:13

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom.

James 3:17

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

Matthew 23:23-24

²³ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. ²⁴ You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

Psalm 85:10-13

¹⁰ Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other. ¹¹ Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. ¹² The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. ¹³ Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Paul shared the experience he recently had at the Nashville Alamo Rental Car Return when someone “saw him, put a smile on his face, called him by name, and helped him experience something he hadn’t experienced in a while.” Can you remember a similar time when you were made to feel this way?
2. What does it mean to “act justly” in our daily lives? What does it look like?
3. What are some things that keep us from acting justly and what can we do to overcome these barriers?
4. What does it mean to “love mercy”?
5. How can we practically demonstrate loving mercy in our daily lives?
6. What does it mean to “walk humbly with God”? What does it look like?
7. In Matthew 23: 23-24, Jesus tells the Pharisees that they are placing too much emphasis on unimportant things and too little emphasis on what is important. Pastor Paul referred to this as “majoring in the minors.” What type of “major” things can we often neglect because we are focusing too much on the “minors”?
8. Pastor Paul said that God’s justice and mercy meet at the cross. What does this mean to you?
9. Considering your answer to question 8 above, how should this meeting of justice and mercy impact how you seek to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God?

PASTOR PAUL’S SERMON QUESTIONS

1. What is one thing you could do this week to help you “walk” at God’s pace and not your own?
2. What is breaking your heart right now and how might God be asking you to respond?