



Week 1: I Will Rise

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four crucial components for a group to maintain its health: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, you will study the biblical passage in three steps: observation, interpretation, and application. As the group leader, you are free to use any part of this guide that can assist you in achieving this goal.

CONNECT

- How has your summer been going so far? What are your plans for the rest of summer?
- When you feel distant from God, what helps you reconnect to him?

INTRODUCTION

In Micah 7, the prophet Micah models for us how to respond when we've fallen into sin. It can be tempting when we have sinned to either under-emphasize or over-emphasize it: to either appeal too quickly to God's grace or to fall into despair. But God calls us to respond to Jesus' grace by **mourning** our sin, **rebuking** the enemy, **acknowledging** God's indignation, and **awaiting** God's vindication. In doing so, we invite God to meet us in our fallenness to convict, comfort, and restore us.

OBSERVATIONS & INTERPRETATION

Read: Micah 7:1-10

Discuss:

- What are the kinds of things Micah shouts "Woe is me!" over?
- What gives Micah the confidence to rebuke the enemy in vv 8-9?
- How does Micah balance mourning and rejoicing in this passage?

Read: Colossians 2:13-15 and 1 John 2:1-2

Discuss:

- What, according to Paul in Colossians, is the result of our trespasses against God?
- How did Jesus plead our cause and execute judgment for us?
- According to John, what role does Jesus play on our

APPLICATION

behalf before the Father?

- What are the things in your life that you shout "Woe is me!" over?
- Do you find yourself under-emphasizing or over-emphasizing your sin?
- Which stage of our response to failure (mourning, rebuking, acknowledging, awaiting) do you find most challenging? Which comes most naturally?

PRAYER

- Ask God for forgiveness and transformation for the ways you have fallen short of his glory.
- Ask God for protection from the lies of the enemy, despair, and condemnation.
- Thank God for the gift of his vindication in Jesus Christ.