

12 A FRESH START

KEY TEXT: MICAH 4:6-8; 5:1-9

CENTRAL truth

Human motives and wisdom are unreliable, so our only real hope of truly getting along with each other is to follow God's wisdom, obeying Him and serving His purposes. When we do, we let go of our need to compete with each other. **When we obey God, we can experience true peace and security.**

key question

How would Jesus be a different kind of King than the human kings who had been ruling God's people?

The human kings who had been ruling God's people were just that—human. They were limited in perspective, power, and wisdom, and no matter how badly they may have wanted to please God, they were just as vulnerable to pride as anyone else. Human pride is always at war with God's ultimate purpose—His glory—so these kings inevitably did things that compromised the relationship between God and His people.

Jesus is different. Being God, Jesus is not limited in perspective, power, or wisdom. Even when He walked the earth, Jesus was not vulnerable to pride, but prioritized God's glory over everything else (see John 17:4). Jesus is the perfect King and has only ever improved the relationship between God and humankind.

keep in mind

Life can be heavy. Everywhere your students look, someone is suffering the effects of either their own sin, someone else's sin, or this broken world we live in. Your students are probably tired of living in "unprecedented times" and hearing about how much simpler life was "back in the day."

Instead of pointing out what they already know, encourage them to focus on Jesus and the hope He provides. Remind them that if they have put their faith in Jesus, this world is not their home (see Heb. 13:14). If they don't feel comfortable here, that's only to be expected. Challenge them to make the most of their time here by sharing the hope of Jesus with others. Jesus can do for this world what we cannot.

application

What do we need to do to be included among the redeemed people of God and experience His restoration?

the win

FOR THE STUDENT: Students should be encouraged that those who put their faith in Jesus have an eternity of hope, peace, joy, and light to look forward to. Students should experience a sense of urgency to share the gospel of Jesus with people who don't know Him and to encourage those who do know Him to share, as well.

FOR THE LEADER: Communicate the gospel of Jesus as clearly as possible. Invite students to put their faith in Him, and help them do it. Help students see that no matter what is going on right now, life will get much better for those who put their faith in Jesus—if not on earth, then in Heaven.

FALL
2022