



**ACT  
LOVE  
WALK**



*“Let us then approach  
God’s throne of grace  
with confidence, so that  
we may receive mercy  
and find grace to help us  
in our time of need.”*

**HEBREWS 4:16**



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# Schedule

## THURSDAY

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4p Arrive  
6p Dinner  
7p Session  
8:30p Small Group  
9:30p Bar  
11p Valencia Closes

## SATURDAY

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8a Breakfast (optional)  
10a Mini Session  
10:30a Free time  
6p Dinner  
7p Session  
8:30p Small Group  
9:30p Bar  
11p Valencia Closes

## FRIDAY

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8a Breakfast (optional)  
10a Mini Session  
10:30a Free time  
6p Dinner  
7p Session  
8:30p Small Group  
9:30p Bar  
11p Valencia Closes

## SUNDAY

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8a Breakfast (optional)  
10a Small Group  
11a Check-Out  
11:05a Adventure

## RULES

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Sessions + Meals are  
**MANDATORY**

**NO** Alcohol, Tobacco,  
Marijuana, Nicotine, or  
Illegal Substances.

**NO** Going through Other  
People's Things.

**NO** Girls in Guys Rooms/  
Guys in Girls Rooms

**NO** Weapons, including  
Pocket Knives.

**NO** inappropriate Card  
Games or Pranks



# Things To Do

## LOCAL

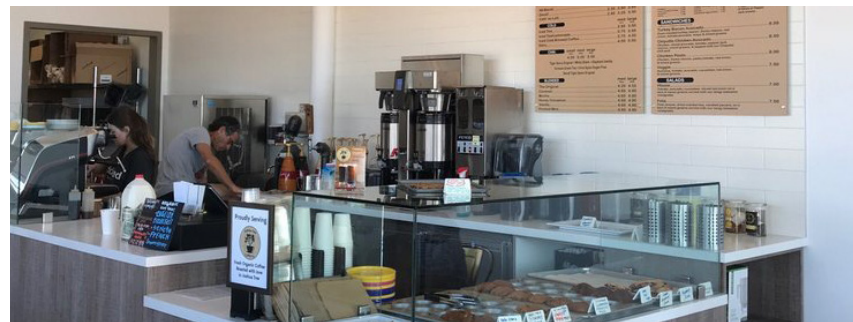
### IW COFFEE

74995 CA 111 S  
Indian Wells, CA 92210



### IW COFFEE CHAI BAR

74868 Country Club Dr. Ste 101  
Palm Desert, CA 92260



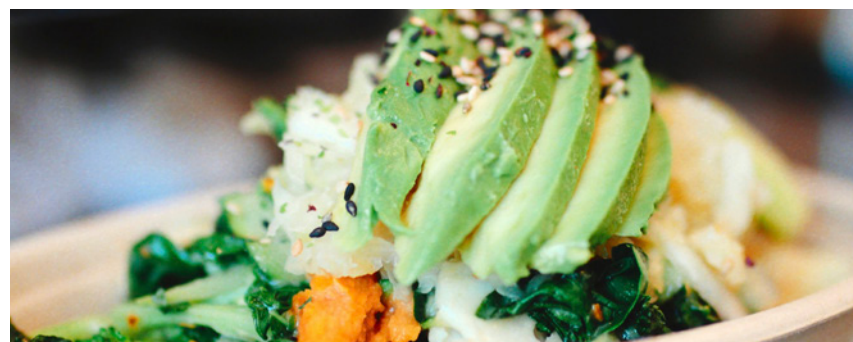
### CHULA ARTISAN EATERY

47150 Washington Street  
La Quinta, CA 92253



### LUSCIOUS LORRAINE'S ORGANIC JUICE

73910 Highway 111 Unit E  
Palm Desert, CA 92260



## ADVENTURE

### TAHQUITZ CANYON

500 W Mesquite Ave  
Palm Springs, CA 92264



### CABAZON DINOS

50770 Seminole Drive  
Cabazon, CA 92230



### MOORTEN BOTANICAL GARDENS

1701 S Palm Canyon Dr.  
Palm Springs, CA 92264



### SALVATION MOUNTAIN

Salvation Mountain , Beal Rd.  
Slab City, CA 92233





# Games

## FAMILY

- Have the players sit in a large circle and get players to **write down a person that would be known by the group** (celebrity, friend, cartoon, etc.).
- When they are done, **put all the names folded up in a bowl or cup and read each of them out loud only twice**. Then, choose someone to be a “picker.” The picker will choose a person and ask them if the person they wrote was \_\_\_\_\_. **If they get the answer right, the person they guessed will join the picker’s family** and the picker can keep guessing. **If not, the person incorrectly picked can now make a guess of their own**. If the leader of a family gets correctly picked, the ENTIRE family joins the family of the other.

### Example

Mike: Hey Colton, are you Elsa?

Colton: No I’m not! (Colton now gets the next guess)

Colton: Delaney, are you Oprah?

Delaney: Yes, I am! (Delaney now moves seats to be next to Colton as they are now in a family together) Delaney now gets another guess.

- This process will continue until one big family is made from everyone. The leader of that family wins!

## CELEBRITY

- Before the game begins, everyone writes 5 to 10 names on individual slips of paper — these names can include celebrities like Kermit the Frog, John F. Kennedy, Dora the Explorer, or Michael Jordan. The players fold the slips of paper and place them into a communal word bank from which each team will draw.
- Teams are made of two people. Player A will try to explain as many names to Player B as possible in the 1 minute time frame. Speed is your friend! Next time the bowl comes around, Player B will then explain to Player A.
- A player from the first team selects a name from the bank and gives clues to his teammates to help them guess the celebrity’s name, while the opposing team keeps an eye on the time (1 minute per round). If you correctly guess the name, remove the name from the bank for the round.
- Teams take turns, compiling points based on the number of celebrities they can name within a minute. The round ends when players have guessed all the names in the hat. **The team with the most points wins!**
- In the **FIRST ROUND**, anything goes except a clue using the celebrity’s name. **SECOND ROUND** is like the first round — the same celebrity names are used, but the clues can be only two words long. In the **third round**, no words are allowed; acting it out is the only way to give a clue.





**ACT JUSTLY,  
LOVE MERCY,  
WALK HUMBLLY.**





# Night One

# Act Justly

In some sense the story of history, and thus, the narrative of the entire Bible is a story of justice. This is not justice only in the sense of punishing those who have committed crimes or felonies. Instead, justice, as presented in scripture, requires much more of us. From the fall of Adam and Even in the Garden, we see God in pursuit of setting things right. This is the biblical ideal of justice. The setting of all things back to their intended goodness.

- **How do you see the biblical idea of justice demonstrated in Scripture?**
- **How do you see the biblical idea of justice made real in your life?**

Micah's prophetic words sting with a newfound sharpness with this understanding. Micah, speaking to Israel, is asking, "What more has God asked for you than to stand up for the oppressed? Protect the vulnerable? Provide for the poor?" God's people were not to be one's known just for burnt offerings and sacrifices (as the verses just before Micah 6:8 suggest). The sacrifices and the Levitical ordeal was all just a means to an end. The end being that the Israelites could be with God and become like him. And who is God but the God of the oppressed? The God who stands up for those under the foot of the powerful?

Micah is speaking to a people who have forgotten their call to become like God and do what he did. God is not interested in a people who only go through the motions so that they can keep in "good standing" with the God of the universe. And what good were sacrifices? The author Hebrews even wrote that "it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins" (Hebrews 10:4). God requires much more than transaction. He calls for participation. God is interested in people becoming partners in his redemptive, justice-filled plan.

- **What needs to be set right around you? Whether in your community, in your home or in you?**
- **How can justice become a part of who you are, not only what you do?**

Ever since the Garden of Eden, God has pursued the justice of the whole world; the redemption of the broken Earth and the people therein. As God calls us into his family—to become a people of his own possession—he is solely interested in people who will work for what his son Jesus died for; the setting of all things right. One must consider in light of this task, what does justice look like in our community and context? I might suggest it looks quite similar to what it looked like in Jesus or Micah's day. Justice isn't an abstract idea. It is rooted in action. Just as Micah said, we must "do justice."

**Reflect on the thoughts above.** What stood out?

**Take time to pray.** Ask God to help you make right your view of justice. Ask that God to show you specific ways that you can partner with him in his plan of redemption. Ask God to give you boldness and bravery as you pursue what he is asking of you.



## Night Two

## Love Mercy

*“This is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.” — Jonah 4:2*

Jonah is a prophet called by God to speak a subversive message in Nineveh, the capital of Assyria and a nation steeped in the culture of idolatry and pleasure-seeking. Rather than meeting the Ninevites, an oppressive force against Israel, Jonah flees to Tarshish, the farthest location in the known world at the time. Even here, God seeks the man he has called. Jonah spends three nights in a fish before stepping foot in Nineveh with a message that the Ninevites hear and respond to with authentic repentance. Though his message caused redemption for a nation, Jonah’s story ends with a man in despair, questioning how a good and just God can display mercy even to an oppressive nation.

Interlaced throughout Jonah’s narrative are traces of God’s faithfulness – in the initial call, in Jonah’s time in the belly of the fish, and in the redemption of the Ninevites, yet none of these displays align with Jonah’s interpretation of mercy. The prophet knows God’s character to be one of faithfulness and justice, a confidence which his life and faith are built upon and the very reason he flees when called. Jonah runs in an attempt to contain God’s mercy from those he perceives as undeserving. Jonah’s actions display a longing for exclusivity in mercy, reserved for those abiding in God’s will rather than those turned away from him. However, it is for this human tendency to turn away that Jesus breathed his last on the cross. God’s heart for his children does not depend upon human understanding or behavior, but on his character alone. Mercy knows no limit.

To know mercy and to love mercy are distinguished in the posture of the heart. We can hear stories of faithfulness, even be part of the process, and recognize glimpses of mercy with a closed heart. We can know mercy and not love it. To love mercy offers invitation with hearts unbarred and arms open, then shares the outflowing joy with all in close proximity, regardless of whether one deserves it or not. Love of mercy is not exclusive, rather it is a recognition of a deep work of mercy in one’s life which cultivates a character which cannot help but show mercy to others.

- **What was your experience with mercy in your family of origin?**
- **Where do you see God’s mercy most prominently in Scripture?**
- **How have you experienced God’s mercy in your life?**
- **How comfortable are you in showing mercy to others?**

**Take time to pray.** Reflect on how you receive and give mercy. Spend some time resting in God’s presence. Ground yourself in his faithfulness. Ask God to let his mercy and faithfulness shape your heart. Ask that you may continually show others His same mercy.



## Night Three

## Walk Humbly

**What does it mean to be humble?** Sometimes, I think we see the action of being humble as equivalent to rejecting compliments or putting ourselves down, which can actually come across as false humility. C.S. Lewis is quoted saying, "humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less." True humility allows us to position ourselves in joyful servant-hood, which makes sense when lined up next to the model Jesus left for us. It also allows us understanding of who we truly are and who we aren't.

Humility can be defined as "freedom from pride or arrogance." Pride and arrogance can hinder us from living out our designed purpose for the kingdom of heaven, and yet through humility God allows us freedom. While we live out our designed purposes, in humility we live in freedom.

**Paul the Apostle's life is a prime example of what true humility. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:9-10:**

*"For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God, I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me." - 1 Corinthians 15:9-10 ESV*

Before Paul wrote his many letters with grace-filled messages of encouragement and direction to the early church, he carried a perceived life mission with a goal much different. Paul was a Pharisee with a strong and forceful personality who went after those not following the law. He persecuted the church and even "tried to destroy it" (Gal 1:13). What led Paul to a change of heart was an encounter he had with Jesus. Paul realized that he had it all wrong. He had turned his religion into something was based on legalism and pride instead of the grace of God, something that through experience Paul realized he was undeserving of. This turned Paul's attitude of pride and arrogance into one of humility. He turned his life into one of servant-hood of God and His people.

- **What can we learn from Paul about humility?**
- **Can you think back to a time in your life where you caught yourself being prideful?**
- **Is there a current situation in your life where pride is taking over?**
- **How does grace change you in those moments?**

Something helpful when ridding ourselves of our pride is doing as C.S Lewis said: thinking of yourself less. What are some ways that you could find time to intentionally think of others more? How can you show this through your actions?

**Take time to pray.** Recognize and confess the moments in your life of pride and ask God to help you follow Paul's example of walking in humility. Ask God to help you see and take opportunities to think of others and serve others more.



***Leadership Breakout***

***He saved us because of His mercy.***







ROOTED AND  
ESTABLISHED IN LOVE

## Intercessory Prayer

*“Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that, who was raised – who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.” – Romans 8:34*

As Christians we are called to follow the example of Jesus Christ. As Jesus intercedes, another way of saying he prays for us, so we are called to pray for others. Throughout Scripture we see believers who prayed for one another. Over and over again: in his nearness, in his travels, even in his imprisonment the Apostle Paul prayed for believers he knew from all over. His prayers were acts of service as he recognized that the greatest thing, he could do for those he loved was ask God to move in their lives.

**Take time to read some of Paul’s prayers.**

- Romans 15:5-6
- Ephesians 1:15-23
- Ephesians 3:17-19
- Philippians 1:3-11

**As you read Paul’s prayers, take time to reflect through these questions:**

- **Who is he praying for? What are the spiritual, mental, emotional, and relational environments like that they are living in?**
- **What is he asking God for on behalf of these people?**

As we seek to follow Jesus and seek to love and serve others, would we pause and take a look at the way we pray for others. As he conveys the weight of his prayers for the Colossae Church, Paul uses the word “struggle” in Colossians 2. He puts an immense amount of effort behind his prayers. As believers, how do we move our prayers for others from a laundry list of prayer request to a weighty, effort filled time of communing with God on behalf of those we love dearly.

**Here are three steps to deepen your prayer life on behalf of others:**

1. **Turn to the Bible:** Allow Scripture to guide your prayer time. Dig into the promises from God and pray these promises for others. Voice your prayers, allow God to know the why behind your prayers. Turn to Scripture to provide your “why.” For example, if you are praying that someone would be healed, pray that they would be healed so that they might glorify God (1 Corinthians 10:31).
2. **Reflect on how God might use you to answer your prayers:** Ask God to lead you in light of what you are praying. Are you able to follow up with the person that you are praying for? As God leads you, allow your prayers and your faith to move you to action.
3. **Stay Consistent:** Sometimes answered prayers come with time. Allow God space to move in the lives of people you are praying for, and as you pray allow God space to move in your life as well. Our time in prayer creates sweet moments with God.

Commit to pray for five people consistently over the next month. As you pray, journal your prayers and what God is speaking to you in your prayer time.



# SEVEN DAY DEVOTIONAL

## Day 1

*"And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have the power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." — Ephesians 3:17*

*"Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth." — Hosea 6:3*

If I am being honest, there are some verses in the Bible that really stress me out, and Micah 6:8 is one of them. When I read God's command for me to "act justly" and "love mercy," my mind immediately conjures up a list of the times I have done the opposite. I start to imagine myself in a Judge Judy style courtroom, with God behind the pulpit, reading off every situation where I did not honor his commands. If you're anything like me, this verse may have stirred up anxiety, and perhaps even some shame, in you. But I want to stop you, and from one broken human to another, offer you an alternative way of meditating on this verse.

Often, when we read these commands from God, we make the mistake of hearing it in a tone of criticism. (My inner voice sounds like Judge Judy's shrill disappointment. I hope yours is less invasive). In reality, I think God's presence feels a lot more like what is described in Hosea 6:3, "like the spring rains that water the earth." God is not examining you and your mistakes from afar, he is close, and personal, showering you with a love that can drench the earth. Here, I am reminded that my God is cleansing, not condemning. I think it is crucial for us to keep this in mind when we read Micah 6:3.

My prayer for you during this quiet time is the same one that Paul had for the church of Ephesus: that you will be able to comprehend "how wide and long and high and deep the love of Christ is" (Ephesians 3:17). If you do nothing else today, please take this time to pause and remind yourself that you are deeply known and deeply loved. I hope that as you move forward, you will choose to read Micah 6:8 from this gentle voice, hearing God's commands as earnest counseling rather than a ruthless judgment. With this understanding of God's infinite love, the potentially cold commandment of Micah 6:8 is transformed into a warm invitation to participate in the goodness of what God is doing.

- What goodness is God inviting you into today?
- Meditate on the character of God.
- What aspect of Him is reflected in Micah 6:8?
- What aspect of Him is reflected in Hosea 6:3?
- What aspect of Him is reflected in Ephesians 3:17?



## Day 2

*“Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” — Jeremiah 29:5-7*

Sometimes in life, we find ourselves in places that we don't want to be. Things didn't work out the way you wanted them to. Things fell apart and now you feel like you're left with nothing but the rubble. Something unexpected happened and you feel like your whole life has flipped upside down. You may not even know how you got here... all you know is that HERE is not fun. It's painful, it's frustrating, it's different. It's not where you expected to be and DEFINITELY not where you want to be. But here is where you are.

God wants to bless you right where you are. When the people of Israel were exiled from their homeland of Jerusalem and sent to live in slavery in Babylon, none of them wanted to be there. Yet the Lord spoke to them through the prophet Jeremiah, telling them to GROW in the season that they were in, no matter how much they didn't want to be there. No matter where you are, God wants you to grow and “seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile.” God brought you to this place to grow you and prepare your heart for the place that he wants to bring you into. Your “here” may not be ideal, but God may just be readying you for something to come.

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God doesn't want to leave you in the place that you're in. God promises that He will deliver you out of this place, He has better things in store for you! In Him, you can find joy, peace, and freedom, so long as you are choosing to focus your eyes on Him, and not your situation. And once you align your heart with His heart, He will begin to change your situation.

The situations we face are designed to change our hearts to make us reflect the heart of Jesus. Slow down. Be present in the season that you're in. God is trying to get you to seek Him with all of your heart, to let go of your desires and wants and lean into what He's teaching you, no matter the place you are in. Learn to grow in Babylon... Israel is coming.

- **What is your Babylon? What situation are you facing that you don't want to be in?**
- **What are you still clinging to that you need to let go of? What do you need to lean into?**
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**Pause and take a deep breath.** Thank God for what He has done in the past and give Him your present situation so that He may shape your future into something better. Be silent and listen for what He is trying to teach you in this season.

## Day 3

*“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have the power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.” — Ephesians 3:17*

*“Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” — Hosea 6:3*

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## Day 4

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**Pause and take a deep breath.** Thank God for what He has done in the past and give Him your present situation so that He may shape your future into something better. Be silent and listen for what He is trying to teach you in this season.



## Day 6

*“Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” — Jeremiah 29:5-7*

Sometimes in life, we find ourselves in places that we don't want to be. Things didn't work out the way you wanted them to. Things fell apart and now you feel like you're left with nothing but the rubble. Something unexpected happened and you feel like your whole life has flipped upside down. You may not even know how you got here... all you know is that HERE is not fun. It's painful, it's frustrating, it's different. It's not where you expected to be and DEFINITELY not where you want to be. But here is where you are.

God wants to bless you right where you are. When the people of Israel were exiled from their homeland of Jerusalem and sent to live in slavery in Babylon, none of them wanted to be there. Yet the Lord spoke to them through the prophet Jeremiah, telling them to GROW in the season that they were in, no matter how much they didn't want to be there. No matter where you are, God wants you to grow and “seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile.” God brought you to this place to grow you and prepare your heart for the place that he wants to bring you into. Your “here” may not be ideal, but God may just be readying you for something to come.

*This is what the Lord says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the Lord, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.” — Jeremiah 29:10-14*

God doesn't want to leave you in the place that you're in. God promises that He will deliver you out of this place, He has better things in store for you! In Him, you can find joy, peace, and freedom, so long as you are choosing to focus your eyes on Him, and not your situation. And once you align your heart with His heart, He will begin to change your situation.

The situations we face are designed to change our hearts to make us reflect the heart of Jesus. Slow down. Be present in the season that you're in. God is trying to get you to seek Him with all of your heart, to let go of your desires and wants and lean into what He's teaching you, no matter the place you are in Learn to grow in Babylon... Israel is coming.

- **What is your Babylon? What situation are you facing that you don't want to be in?**
- **What are you still clinging to that you need to let go of? What do you need to lean into?**
- **What is God trying to teach you through your situation?**

**Pause and take a deep breath.** Thank God for what He has done in the past and give Him your present situation so that He may shape your future into something better. Be silent and listen for what He is trying to teach you in this season.

## Day 7

*“And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have the power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.” — Ephesians 3:17*

*“Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” — Hosea 6:3*

If I am being honest, there are some verses in the Bible that really stress me out, and Micah 6:8 is one of them. When I read God's command for me to “act justly” and “love mercy,” my mind immediately conjures up a list of the times I have done the opposite. I start to imagine myself in a Judge Judy style courtroom, with God behind the pulpit, reading off every situation where I did not honor his commands. If you're anything like me, this verse may have stirred up anxiety, and perhaps even some shame, in you. But I want to stop you, and from one broken human to another, offer you an alternative way of meditating on this verse.

Often, when we read these commands from God, we make the mistake of hearing it in a tone of criticism. (My inner voice sounds like Judge Judy's shrill disappointment. I hope yours is less invasive). In reality, I think God's presence feels a lot more like what is described in Hosea 6:3, “like the spring rains that water the earth.” God is not examining you and your mistakes from afar, he is close, and personal, showering you with a love that can drench the earth. Here, I am reminded that my God is cleansing, not condemning. I think it is crucial for us to keep this in mind when we read Micah 6:3.

My prayer for you during this quiet time is the same one that Paul had for the church of Ephesus: that you will be able to comprehend “how wide and long and high and deep the love of Christ is” (Ephesians 3:17). If you do nothing else today, please take this time to pause and remind yourself that you are deeply known and deeply loved. I hope that as you move forward, you will choose to read Micah 6:8 from this gentle voice, hearing God's commands as earnest counseling rather than a ruthless judgment. With this understanding of God's infinite love, the potentially cold commandment of Micah 6:8 is transformed into a warm invitation to participate in the goodness of what God is doing.

- **What goodness is God inviting you into today?**
- **Meditate on the character of God.**
- **What aspect of Him is reflected in Micah 6:8?**
- **What aspect of Him is reflected in Hosea 6:3?**
- **What aspect of Him is reflected in Ephesians 3:17?**





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