

“DO JUSTICE, LOVE KINDNESS, WALK HUMBLY WITH OUR GOD” - MICAH 6:8

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A few months back, I visited an impoverished Muslim community that GCF South Metro has been supporting. I was surprised to learn that some people are oblivious that having breakfast provides you with energy throughout the day. It was only when they experienced eating breakfast that they realized that hunger was the reason for their dizziness and lack of focus in class. For those who do not even know if they will be able to eat anything throughout the day, eating breakfast is essential. As this reality unfolded before me, as a follower of Jesus, I knew that I needed to feed the hungry.

This reminded me of God's rebuke to His people in the Book of Micah. God denounced the wealthy people for their oppression of the poor. The powerful took the land that was not theirs (3:12). They drove out women and children from their homes (2:9). Corruption, forced labor, and dishonesty in their trade were prevalent during those times. This is the reason why the prophet Micah was tasked to rebuke God's people. The LORD addressed Israel's disobedience despite His faithfulness to them.

What was it that the Lord asked of His people? The Lord, at that

time, asked Israel to do justice, love, kindness, and walk humbly with God. Justice is not only about being in the trial courts. We are just when we give others what is due to them; when we treat people as people. We need to give them what is due them, even amidst challenging times.

As human beings created in the image and likeness of God, we are to treat others, most especially the disadvantaged, with kindness. The Hebrew word for kindness is *hesed*. It is used to describe how God shows mercy and grace to His people. And this is what the Lord desires for Israel to be and to do – to live out His kindness towards others. And as Israel yields to the Lord to be just and kind, she, too, is walking in humility. We cannot be just toward those who hurt us without humility and love. We cannot be kind to the unkind when we are not willing to go lower. This is what the Lord required of His people then. This is what the Lord Jesus showed us when He came and took the cross for us.

Today, Micah 6:8 resonates because of what the Lord Jesus has accomplished at the cross. As God's people in GCF South Metro, we need to show the love of God to those who are in need. As we go and make disciples, we should not only be concerned

with the verbal proclamation of the Gospel but also respond to the needs of God's people. GCF South Metro is blessed to be used by God to be His hands and feet to the oppressed and the needy. Missions in our context have been evolving. We witness how more people are being reached by God's Word and love through the efforts of Growth Groups.

In celebration of Missions Month, we will highlight what God is doing through the church as we reach out to the communities around us and even beyond. It will also be an opportunity for us to remember our brothers and sisters around the world who suffer from persecution because of their faith. This is a good time to raise awareness of their situation and understand how we can engage and come together to help them.

It is our prayer that we will all be used to further the Kingdom as we show and share the love and the gospel of the Lord Jesus. It is also our prayer that, as God's people here at GCF South Metro, we will be just, kind, and humble, just like Jesus. ✱