

**April 9, 2021**

**Micah 6:8, “And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”**

Here are three direct and succinct statements that show us specifically what the LORD desires from us. First of all, we are to act justly. The Hebrew word for *act justly* is **mishpat** which means *to act in a kind, right and respectful manner*. How we respond to others is a picture of the God we serve. We can always ask ourselves the question: What would the LORD want me to do? Then the Holy Spirit will lead you to do exactly what He wants.

Secondly, we are to love mercy. The Hebrew word is **chasad** which means *to be kind, compassionate and full of mercy towards others*. When we think of how most people act towards others, it is not in this manner. I can't tell you how many times I've seen people become so irate in traffic or become annoyed at a baby crying in the grocery store. I try to imagine what those persons are going through. I must admit that it is difficult sometimes when my flesh is ruling instead of His Spirit. We must be models of Christ's love no matter what the circumstances are. Lastly, we are to walk humbly with our God. This embodies what Jesus told the people as He was speaking on the mountainside. **Mt. 7:12, “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.”** In other words, we should put others before ourselves. One way I try to do this is every time I see an older gentleman in the grocery store or when I'm out and about wearing a military service hat, I tell them “thank you for your service.” More often than not, it brings a smile to their face that someone realizes the sacrifice they made. It is always better to serve than to be served.

**Dear LORD, help us to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with You. We will not always succeed but I pray You will guide us in Your path. You deserve our obedience and our humility. In Jesus Name, Amen**