



Book:

Presentation Ideas -



BOOK. Share this story with the Bible students after the Adventure. Answer the questions at the end. **3MIC16JR.GF1**

Bible Adventure -

There were three of God's prophets who lived and spoke for God at about the same time in history. One was the prophet we have been hearing about the last few weeks. Can anyone name him? (Hint: he had a burning coal pressed to his lips by a heavenly being-Isaiah.) The second prophet was the one God asked to marry a woman who would be unfaithful to him. Who can tell me what his name was? (Hosea). The third prophet who lived at this time was Micah. God called Micah from his home in the countryside of Judah to deliver a specific message to Judah's people.

We already know that God's people had lost their love for God and were living in a way that was hateful to God. God watched them and warned them for a long time that if they did not turn from their evil ways God would judge them. The message Micah brings them is that God is not fooled by their schemes. You see, in Micah's time, the rich and powerful people took advantage of and abused the poor people. Micah 2 tells how these people would lie in their beds at night and plan ways to steal land or houses from honest people. Because they were so wealthy and powerful they got away with this. They even had the support of false prophets, who told them what they were doing was perfectly all right. These false prophets would give you a good prophecy if you paid them something and a bad prophecy if you did not. So all the people of Judah had to do was to give the false prophet something and he would tell them what he knew they wanted to hear. Thankfully, God never tells His people what He thinks they want to hear. God tells the truth, totally and always! God had some truth to give His people through Micah. Actually, the book of Micah is written like a scene from a courtroom, especially the last two chapters. God had a case against His people, a charge to make. But before He stated His case, He again reminded them of His loving care through the years and how He brought them up out of Egypt, the Promised Land. He taught them how He wanted them to live. Listen to this verse from Micah 6:8

"He has showed you, O man, what is good
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy,
And to walk humbly with your God."

I think we can all agree that God's people had totally forgotten what God required of them. Not only were they cheating the poor, they were dishonest in other ways as well, such as violence and lying. This was God's case against them, and the reason for the coming judgment against them. Though Judah would not be invaded by Assyria as the Northern Kingdom was, they would not escape going into captivity in Babylon.

God's judgment and anger are greatly to be feared, but Micah had another message as well. The same God who brings judgment also longs to show mercy. Micah said it this way in chapter 7:18

"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the
transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His
anger forever, because He delights in mercy."

Micah also tells us that one day God would send the Messiah, Jesus Christ, to rule over them. Micah even predicted the birthplace of Jesus as being Bethlehem. You can read this prophecy in Micah 5:2. Under Jesus' rule, the type of sin God's people were involved in would not exist. There would be no false prophets to tell the people that their evil deeds were okay. If we are not careful, we can fall into the same kind of trap. It's easy to hang out with people who only tell us what we want to hear. You could have real problems, but these people will never tell you because all they ever do is agree with everything you say or do. Then you may meet other people who are really turned off by your bad habits or your sinful ways. When God looks at your behavior, He will not be pleased with your lack of caring about what He wants for your life. We all want to be accepted, but sometimes withholding the truth from someone when they are sinning is more hurtful to them than lovingly telling them the truth. To keep the right perspective about ourselves, we need the truth of God's Word. It is the final word for us on whether or not our behavior is pleasing to God. We also need godly friend, the kind that will accept us for who we are and at

the same time not make excuses for our bad attitudes, rudeness, or sinful behavior. We can be that kind of friend for others too, the kind of friend who has his friend's best interests at heart. The kind of friend Jesus is to us.

God had a case against the people because of their sin. Even though you live almost 3,000 years later, God has that same case against your sin. You are guilty, even if you try and pretend you are not. The Savior that was predicted in Micah 5:2 has already come. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. He has taken the punishment for your sin upon Himself. Remember how completely Isaiah described Jesus' suffering for our sin. When Christ returns, your punishment will depend upon your trust in Him. Don't be like the people who ignored Micah's warning. Accept God's offer to have your punishment paid for by the blood of His Son, Jesus.



Look:



WORDS. How many words can you make from Assyria & Babylon? This could be a tough project. **3MIC16JR.GF2**



SEARCH. Find as many scripture passages in Micah with "legal" terms in them as you can. Do this as a group with an overhead or use **3MIC16JR.GF2**. Have the Bible students raise their hands as they discover legal jargon.



JOB HUNT. Today, pretend you are searching for a job with the title of "**Official Royal Puppet**", I mean "**Official Royal Prophet**". Divide students into groups with a teacher. Have them make up prophecies that they think the leaders of Judah would like to hear. Pick a winner when the groups share their phony prophecies. Then take time to explain why their prophecies were false. Example: God says you are His people, therefore you should be able to take all that you want. OR God says it's not really stealing, you should have what you want because you will appreciate it more than someone else. OR God says white lies are okay. A lie is only a lie when it hurts someone.



CREATE IT. Use the page provided for the Bible students to create word searches with the legal jargon they have found in Micah. Exchange papers and find those words. Why do you think Micah used legal jargon? [The poor were oppressed with no recourse to the courts because of corrupt judges, so Micah champions their cause.] **3MIC16JR.GF3**



Took:



PROPHET PAGE. This is a half sheet of paper for the Bible students to fill out. This sheet will also help with the memory work. If these pages are all saved, the Bible students will have a booklet on the prophets that they have put together. These pages will fit in a small binder. **3MIC16JR.GF4**



FLASH CARD. Use the flash cards provided to help with the memory work!



JUMPIN' 4 P's.

The Prophets name is Micah
The People are from Judah
The Prophecy ---The Lord Demands Justice
The Principle ---Don't Justify Your Sin
Doing what you want---Taking what you want
These are the 4 P's
Got 'em from Micah
Now, it's time to jump out.

[To make into a rap, delete the last line and repeat the second to the last line.]

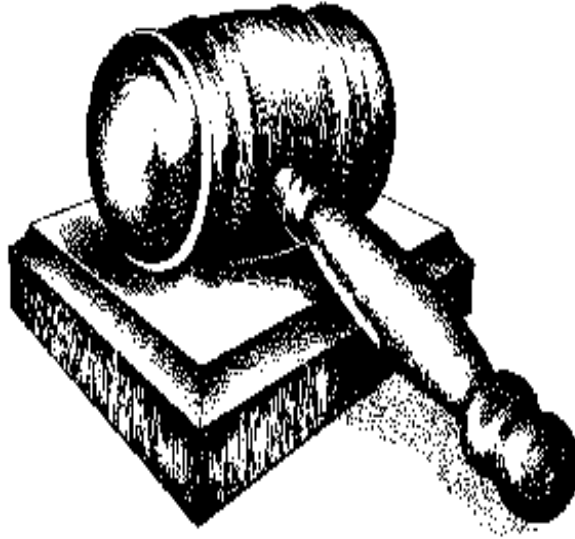
WRITE IT. What would you like to have in a best friend? Why do you look for those certain things? What qualities do you have that you think a friend would find attractive?

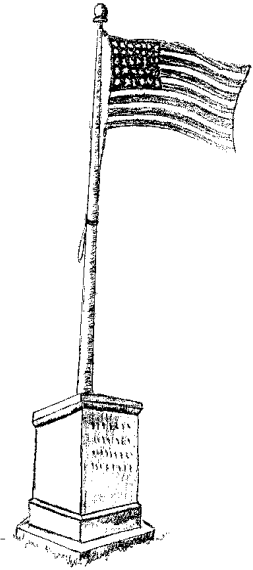
That's A Fact Jack. Answer the discussion questions with your class that are found at the back of the book, "That's A Fact Jack". **3MIC16JR.GF1.** Ask students to share about similar situations where they have acted like different characters in the story.

AIM QUESTIONS. 3MIC16JR.GF2

1. Who is Micah?
2. What prophecy did he share?
3. Read Micah 6:8. What does the Lord require of you?
4. Do you justify sin? [You bet!] Make a list of your excuses. How can you recognize when you are doing it?
5. How can you prevent "justification" in your life. What will you do now that you know what the Lord requires?

SING IT. Micah 6:8
He has shown thee (repeat)
Oh, man (repeat)
What is good
and what the Lord requires of thee.
To act justly
and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with thy God
[repeat song twice]





THAT'S A FACT JACK

An FBC publication. 3MIC16JR.GF1

As Jack and his friends put on their jackets and gathered up their books they were even more excited than they usually were after the last bell rang.

It would have been better yet if today were Friday, but even on Wednesday there was time after school to make the most of a beautiful day.

The winter had been long and the snow had been deep. Snow is always fun for awhile, but now it seemed like years since they had been able to run without falling or ride their bikes. Clear pavement was a beautiful sight (even if it was still a little wet).

“Meet me at the flagpole!” Jack called as he flew out the door and barely missed knocking over a kindergartner. Sam, Josh, and Riley knew Jack’s call was meant for them. The four boys lived on the same block and had been friends for as long as they could remember. Jack usually made most of their plans, but the others didn’t mind because he had good ideas most of the time and they never had to wonder what to do next. They didn’t know what he had in mind for them today, but whatever it was, they were anxious to get started.

“Let’s go get our bikes and ride back here.” Jack said almost before they all arrived at the meeting place.

Josh said, “because my bike still has a flat from the last time I rode it. My Dad promised to fix it before Spring, but I think he forgot.”

All Jack said was “that stinks,” but he was already trying to figure out a way to go bike riding with Sam and Riley even if Josh couldn’t go. Jack had a brand new 12 speed racing bike. He’d been waiting for this chance to ride it ever since his birthday and he wasn’t in the mood for anything to spoil his plans.

During Jack’s pause, Gus Murphy came puffing by.

“What’s your hurry?” asked Sam with a snicker. Murphy was not the smoothest runner in the world. (Everyone called him by his last name which was okay with him. A name like Gus could get you into a lot of trouble.)

“The snow is almost gone.” said Murphy. “Did you notice?”

“Yeah,” said Sam. “Are you trying to catch it and bring it back?” By then Jack was paying attention and he joined the other boys in laughter.

“No,” said Murphy. He was laughing, too. “I want to get home and try out my new rollerblades. I’ve been saving up for them all winter. I just got ‘em last week. See ya.”

“Wait a minute.” said Jack. “How’d you get the money for your skates?”

“I shoveled snow for my neighbors and helped my Dad in his store on Saturdays. They cost a lot, but my Dad said to get good ones. I want to play hockey someday. Can I go now?”

“Yeah, sure.” said Jack, and they watched as Murphy ran off with that lopsided run of his. Then Jack said, half to himself, “It sure would be cool if we could go rollerblading together.” Riding bikes seemed kind of ordinary now.

“I have rollerblades” said Josh helpfully. “My brother grew out of them, so now they’re mine.”

“I have some, too,” said Riley.

“Mine are too small,” Sam said, “but my parents promised I could get some new ones. They wanted to wait until spring because I’m growing so fast. Hey, maybe you could fit into my old ones.”

Jack’s feet weren’t much smaller than Sam’s, but he’d try anything now. He knew his parents wouldn’t get him any in-line skates because he had promised that he wouldn’t ever ask for anything else if he could have the racing bike. Besides, there was a lot of talk around his house about how dangerous rollerblading could be.

With Jack in the lead, the boys ran to the house. Jack managed to get his feet into Sam’s old rollerblades, but they were so tight he could hardly

stand up. After that, Jack said he'd better get home. Sam could see how disappointed Jack was, so he didn't ask any questions.

As Jack wandered home, he wondered what size Murphy's feet were....



That night, Jack didn't get to sleep until long after his parents went to bed. It would be easy to get old Murphy to bring his new skates to school. Jack made plans for Friday. He'd hide Murphy's notebook at

the end of class to delay him a bit. He'd wear his big bulky coat and wrap the skates in it. Then he'd be out the coatroom door ahead of everyone. He did that every day anyway. He'd have to figure out somewhere to keep the rollerblades. His parents would start asking questions if he brought them home.

On Thursday at lunch recess Jack was unusually friendly to Gus Murphy. He had already confirmed that Murphy's feet were just slightly bigger than his. Perfect!

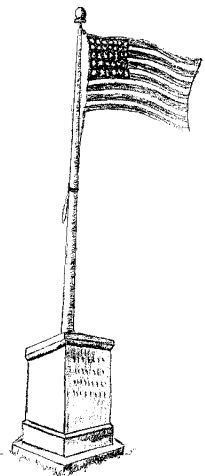
"Hey Murphy," Jack called, "How did your rollerblades work out?"

"Great" said Murphy "I'm not very good yet, but I never had so much fun!"

Jack smiled and recited the lines he'd composed so carefully. "I've been thinking about getting some in-line skates, too, but I don't know what kind to buy. Do you think I could take a look at yours? Maybe I could even try 'em out."

Murphy frowned a little "My parents said not to let anyone else wear them, but you can sure look at 'em if you want to. I'll bring 'em tomorrow.

Jack grinned and walked back to class with Murphy. It had almost been too easy.



There was another meeting at the flagpole after school. Jack looked around and said “I’ve got something important to talk to you guys about , but not here. We have some time before your parents get home.” He nodded at Josh. “Let’s go to your house.”

“Here’s the deal,” Jack began after they were settled at Josh’s house. “I need some help, so I’m going to let you guys in on a little secret. I’m going to become the proud owner of some great new rollerblades, but I can’t take ‘em home because my parents will want to know where I got ‘em, so I need one of you to keep them for me. I was thinking of you, Riley. Our parents never talk. They hardly even know each other.”

Jack knew Riley was going to ask this next question, but he wished he wouldn’t. “But Jack, where are you going to get rollerblades?”

“Let’s just say that Murphy won’t be using them anymore.”

Riley’s jaw dropped “You’re going to steal Murphy’s skates and keep them at my house?”

“Man, don’t get upset” Jack said. “And don’t call it stealing. I’m just going to use them until I can figure out how to get some from my parents. What he doesn’t know won’t hurt him, right guys?”

“Right,” said Josh. “Murphy shouldn’t have skates anyway. He can’t even walk straight.”

“Yeah,” said Sam. “He’ll probably hurt himself on those things. Jack’s doing him a favor.”

“But he worked all winter to buy them.” Riley said. “That’s a mean thing to do.”

Jack was irritated. “I’m doing it for you guys. You want to be able to skate together, don’t you? I’m the only one of us who doesn’t have rollerblades, so you’ve got to help me out.”

“But it’s stealing.” said Riley.

“I wish you’d quit saying that.” said Jack. “Look, if you don’t want to keep them at your house, then fine. But you’d better not say a word to anybody or I’ll get you back. And, you can forget skating with us, too.”

Riley was almost ready to cry, so he headed for the door.

“You’re not going to get away with this, Jack. They’ll find out. Somebody will figure out what you’ve done and you’ll be in big trouble!” This time it was Riley that left the others before they had a chance to do anything fun.

The next day Jack’s plan worked perfectly. He was out of the school yard before Murphy even got to the coatroom. Josh, Sam and Riley had all made a point not to stick around. So when a desperate Murphy came back into the classroom looking for his rollerblades, there wasn’t a soul who knew anything about them. Murphy could do nothing but go home for the weekend without any blades, but he still hoped that somehow they’d turn up next week.

Jack, meanwhile was at Sam’s house with rollerblading on his mind. He already had one skate on, but he was having a little trouble with the left one. Must be buckled up too tight. He adjusted the buckles until he was satisfied and skated off with Sam and Josh. He planned to become a skating sensation over the weekend...if he could just get that left skate adjusted right.

Jack waited a few weeks until Murphy quit asking about his rollerblades, and nobody was looking for them anymore. Josh and Sam had been taking their skates to school and Jack figured that now it was safe to bring “his”. He knew Murphy would see them, but was ready with another well-planned answer.

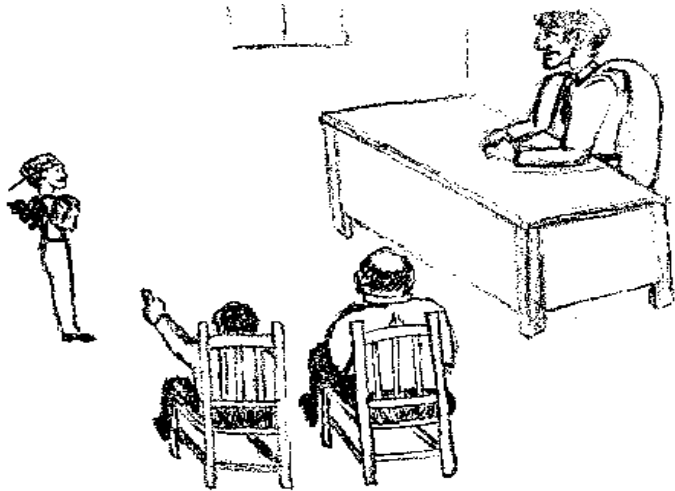
“Hey, those skates look just like mine” Murphy said when he saw them just as Jack knew he would.

“Yeah, I liked yours so much when you showed ‘em to me that I got some just like ‘em. They really are great. Hope you find yours.”

Murphy looked hurt, but he shrugged and walked off. Jack’s plan had worked like a charm again.

“Jack”. “Jack”, his teacher said again “you’re wanted in the office. Oh, and bring your in-line skates.”

“What for?” asked Jack, hoping he didn’t know the answer.



“I don’t know, but there’s only a half hour left today, so hurry.”

Jack tried to remain calm while he walked to the principal’s office. He had pulled everything off without a hitch so far. Just be cool. After today he’d be home free. Still, maybe he shouldn’t have brought the skates to school after all...

Jack was directed to a seat and asked to wait. So much for hurrying. After a few minutes Mr. Amzee invited Jack into his office. The first thing he noticed was that Gus Murphy was already there. Why hadn’t he noticed that Murphy was out of class?

“Mr. Murphy has reason to believe that you’ve stolen his in-line skates, Jack.” said Mr. Amzee. “This is a serious accusation.”

“My skates are just like the ones he lost, sir,” said Jack hoping that he only sounded nervous and not guilty. “but I’d never take anything that wasn’t mine.”

“We’ll soon find out.” Mr. Amzee said. “Have a look Mr. Murphy.”

Jack handed over the skates and Murphy stuck his hand inside the left skate. He nodded to Mr. Amzee and simply said, “They’re mine.”

“Thank you Mr. Murphy, you may go, but leave the skates here for now.”

Jack was frantic. “He can’t prove those are his. My parents bought them for me, I just...”

“Don’t make it worse by lying, Jack. I’ll explain. Have you noticed that Gus has a slight disability; that he walks with a limp?”

“Yes, sir.”

“Well, Mr. Murphy had correction built into his skates just like he has built into his shoes. The corrective supports are in this left skate. I’m surprised you didn’t notice something unusual when you wore them.”

Jack just started to feel sick.

“I’m very disappointed in you Jack. I don’t understand why you would take something that isn’t yours when you already have much more than many of our students. You’ll need to wait here until we can contact your parents. Theft brings serious consequences and we’ll need to explain our policies to your folks before we begin disciplinary action.”

Questions For Discussion:

- 1. Who acted like Micah?**
- 2. Who in the story acted like a false prophet?**
- 3. How is God’s judgment seen in Micah and how is judgment seen in this story?**

An FBC publication.
THAT’S A FACT JACK

3MIC16JR.GF1

LEGAL JARGON

Find as many scripture passages in Micah with legal jargon. Write down the scripture reference and the legal term.

AIM QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

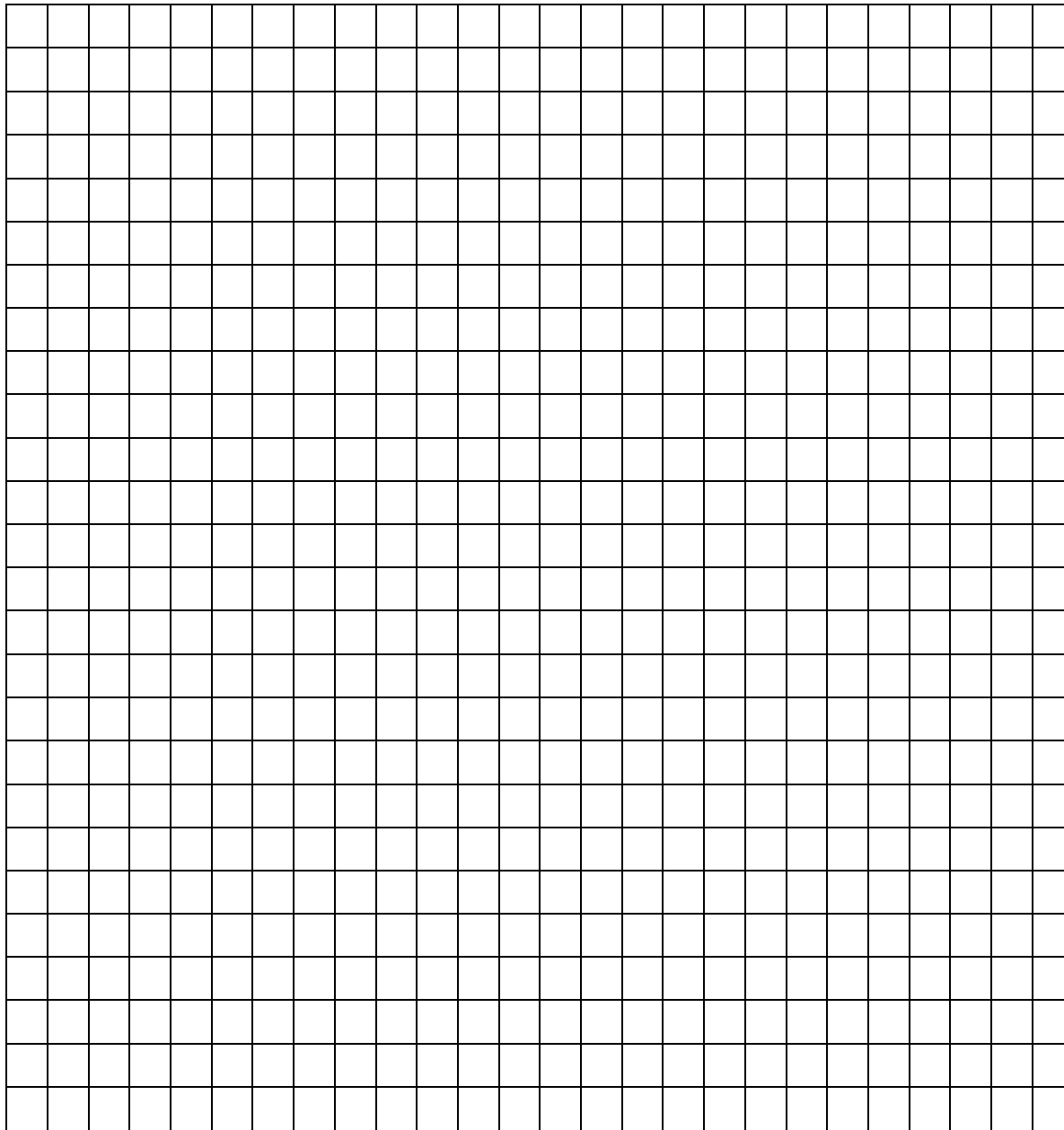
1. Who is Micah?
2. What did he prophecy?
3. Read Micah 6:8. What does the Lord require of you?
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5. How can you prevent “justification” in your life. What will you do now that you know what the Lord requires?

How many words can you make from **ASSYRIA & BABYLON**? The first one has been done for you.

baby



WORD SEARCH



word search
list

BOOK: _____

PROPHET: _____

PROPHECY: _____

PRINCIPLE: _____

PEOPLE: _____

Notes.

BOOK: _____

PROPHET: _____

PROPHECY: _____

PRINCIPLE: _____

PEOPLE: _____

Notes.
