

## **Love One Another**

### **Introduction:**

Somewhere on my bookshelf is one of my High School Yearbooks. My children refer to it as ancient literature. I think they are correct. This particular Yearbook has the question on the cover, “Now What?” You made it through your sophomore year, now what? You graduated, now what? Both readings below ask the hearer that same question, “Now what?”

The prophet Micah is taking the northern Kingdom of Israel to court. He is the prosecutor. The Lord is the plaintiff and the judge. The mountains and the hills are the jury. The case is simple. The Lord has saved his people...more than once. The people have forgotten and wandered away. What should we do since the Lord has saved us, again and again? Now what? Micah sarcastically lists three sacrifices: rams, oil, and blood. These are not what the Lord wants. Rather, we are to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.

Jesus brings salvation to the whole world. He’s about to show the depth of his love. He will die for the sin of the world. Jesus is the fulfillment acting with justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our God. He washes feet, he serves, he saves, he loves. Now what? We are to love like he loved. We are to love one another.

### **Read Your Bible**

- Micah 6:6-8
- John 13:12-17; 34-35

### **Apply God’s Word to Your Life:**

1. When have you been served well?
2. How did that make you feel?
3. How have you experienced the loving service of Jesus?
4. How do you describe the joy of your salvation in Christ?
5. How do you know if your actions are just, merciful, and humble?
6. What is your favorite, most meaningful way to love others?
7. How does living this way help you invite people to know Jesus?
8. Now what?

**Reflecting on the text:**

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

**Pray**

Thank you, Jesus, for the salvation you have won. Thank you for your justice, mercy, humility and your cross. By your Spirit may we live as you taught us. May our knees bend easily when we wash feet. May our hearts be filled with delight when we love. Through our love, may all others experience and know you. In your name we pray. Amen.