

**Sermon:** The Surprising Arrival of Our Shepherd King  
**Series:** *Peace on Earth*

**Scripture:** Micah 5:1-5a  
**Date:** December 6, 2020

---

**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1) What does this passage teach us about us (mankind)?**

a) Advent means arrival and carries the idea of waiting for something. What have you been waiting for recently (big or little)? OR what have you been hoping for? Hoping in?

b) In Micah 5, what was the nation of Judah waiting for/hoping in (bad and good)? Hint: compare verse 1 to verse 2 and following.

c) Why might Micah's prophecy seem so strange to the people? Why is it so hard for us to trust God's shepherding through Jesus instead of "mustering our troops" (verse 1)?

**2) What does this passage teach us about God?**

a) God uses strange methods to fulfill his will and his promises (like using Bethlehem, an unwed mother, a baby born in a manger). How does this truth about God encourage you today?

b) God wants us to experience peace. Do you believe this? What makes it easy or difficult to trust God for peace?

**3) What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

a) How is Jesus described in Micah 5:1-5? Which word or phrase stands out to you personally?

b) Re-read Micah 5:5a and Ephesians 2:14-22. Spend some time discussing this passage. How does Paul describe the peace we have in Christ?

**APPLICATION**

a) Pastor Mark asked, "Are you willing to set aside your expectations and receive the unexpected this Christmas?" What is your response?

b) Are you looking for a problem solver or a savior? How are these different?

**FIGHTER VERSES: Isaiah 9:2-7.**

**PRAYER**

Praise God for granting us his peace through Jesus Christ.

Confess ways that you have sought peace through "problem solving" rather than through your Savior.

Ask God to grant you his spirit of peace and the ministry of peace this week.