



***Nahum: Trusting the Justice  
of God's Judgment***  
Date: 10/16/2016

## Pray Together

**Use the first few minutes of your time together to lead your group in a focused prayer time.**

- **Praise:** Spend time praising God for who He is.
- **Repent:** Take a few moments to silently confess any sin that is lingering in your heart.
- **Ask:** Verbalize your needs and the needs of others to God.
- **Yield:** Surrender your will to God.

## Read Together

Since the middle of the eighth century BC, Assyria had been the greatest national threat for God's people. In 722 BC, Assyrian armies overthrew the Northern Kingdom of Israel and, in the years that followed, the Southern Kingdom of Judah engaged in frequent battles with Assyria. God's people were all too familiar with the cruelty and destruction that came to those who opposed this powerful nation.

During Assyria's early rise to power, the prophet Jonah proclaimed God's judgment against the nation. The Ninevites responded with repentance and God spared them (Jonah 3:10). However, the people and their leaders did not continue in repentance. A half century later, the Assyrians had turned from Yahweh and resumed their godless oppression of the nations.

Nahum proclaimed God's certain judgment against the great city of Nineveh. "With an overflowing flood [the Lord] will make a complete end of the adversaries, and will pursue His enemies into darkness" (Nahum 1:8). History confirm this prophecy's fulfillment. During the 640s and 630s BC, internal revolts caused strife and division within Assyria; the unity of this great empire was disintegrating. By 612 BC, Nineveh had fallen at the hands of the Babylonians and the Medes.

## Outline

1. The Doom of Nineveh is Promised (Nahum 1:1-2:2)
  - a. The Lord's Judgement of Nineveh (Nahum 1:2-11)
  - b. The Consequences of Nineveh's Sin (Nahum 1:12-2:2)
2. The Doom of Nineveh is Described (Nahum 2:3-3:19)
  - a. First Description of Nineveh's Destruction (Nahum 2:3-3:1)
  - b. Second Description of Nineveh's Destruction (Nahum 3:2-7)
  - c. Third Description of Nineveh's Destruction (Nahum 3:8-11)
  - d. Fourth Description of Nineveh's Destruction (Nahum 3:12-19)

## Discuss Together

**Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion.**

- As you study Nahum, identify the most significant questions you need to answer to better understand its message.



- The Triune God is always the main character of Scripture. What does the book of Nahum teach us about God?
- Knowing what Nahum teaches us about God, what does the book teach us about humanity?
- “The Lord is slow to anger and great in power...The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; He knows those who take refuge in Him” (Nahum 1:3, 7). What does the salvation of the Lord mean for those who take refuge in Him? Use examples from Scripture to support your answers.
- “The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty. ...But with an overflowing flood he will make a complete end of the adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into darkness” (Nahum 1:3, 8). What does the salvation of the Lord mean for those who are against the Lord? Use examples from Nahum 2-3 to support your answers.
- Read Nahum 1:15. Why is the news about Nineveh considered “good news” for the people of God? Discuss the ways a Christ-follower might respond to God’s justice being rendered to the wicked. Give specific attention to how the Gospel informs your thoughts and actions. If possible, share a time when you were faced with this kind of response.
- How should the Body of Christ “go there” with the message of Nahum? How do you personally need to “go there” with this message?

## Do Life Together

**These questions are designed to be asked in a smaller group of 2-4 people. The smaller setting will provide better opportunity for authentic responses. In your smaller group time, take notes to help others remain accountable to their answers. Grow together!**

- How is God calling you to exchange doom for everlasting hope?
- How has Jesus already provided hope in this area?
- Who do you need to share this hope with this week?

## Pray Together

**Pray through Romans 5:6-11. Reflect on what it means for enemies to be reconciled through Christ. Celebrate Christ.**

