

Judges #16

Micah, Mom, and the Levite

Suppress God (Make Him Small)

1. Micah and his mom shape a God who is _____ to _____.

Judges 17:1-5 (ESV)

¹ There was a man of the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Micah.

² And he said to his mother, “The 1,100 pieces of silver that were taken from you, about which you uttered a curse, and also spoke it in my ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it.” And his mother said, “Blessed be my son by the LORD.”

³ And he restored the 1,100 pieces of silver to his mother. And his mother said, “I dedicate the silver to the LORD from my hand for my son, to make a carved image and a metal image. Now therefore I will restore it to you.”

⁴ So when he restored the money to his mother, his mother took 200 pieces of silver and gave it to the silversmith, who made it into a carved image and a metal image. And it was in the house of Micah.

⁵ And the man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and household gods, and ordained one of his sons, who became his priest.

Judges 17:7-10 (ESV)

⁷ Now there was a young man of Bethlehem in Judah, of the family of Judah, who was a Levite, and he sojourned there.

⁸ And the man departed from the town of Bethlehem in Judah to sojourn where he could find a place. And as he journeyed, he came to the hill country of Ephraim to the house of Micah.

⁹ And Micah said to him, “Where do you come from?” And he said to him, “I am a Levite of Bethlehem in Judah, and I am going to sojourn where I may find a place.”

¹⁰ And Micah said to him, “Stay with me, and be to me a father and a priest, and I will give you ten pieces of silver a year and a suit of clothes and your living.” And the Levite went in.

Judges 17:13 (ESV) Then Micah said, “Now I know that the LORD will prosper me, because I have a Levite as priest.”

Judges 18:1-2 (ESV)

And in those days the tribe of the people of Dan was seeking for itself an inheritance to dwell in, for until then no inheritance among the tribes of Israel had fallen to them.

² So the people of Dan sent five able men from the whole number of their tribe, from Zorah and from Eshtaol, to spy out the land and to explore it. And they said to them, “Go and explore the land.” And they came to the hill country of Ephraim, to the house of Micah, and lodged there.

Judges 18:23-25 (ESV)

“What is the matter with you, that you come with such a company?”

²⁴ And Micah said, “You take my gods that I made and the priest, and go away, and what have I left? How then do you ask me, ‘What is the matter with you?’ ”

²⁵ And the people of Dan said to him, “Do not let your voice be heard among us, lest angry fellows fall upon you, and you lose your life with the lives of your household.”

Judges 18:30-31 (ESV) And the people of Dan set up the carved image for themselves, and Jonathan the son of Gershom, son of Moses, and his sons were priests to the tribe of the Danites until the day of the captivity of the land.

³¹ So they set up Micah’s carved image that he made, as long as the house of God was at Shiloh.

How we Suppress God in the 21st Century

2. We think we are like God in _____.
3. We think we are like God in _____.
4. We think God can be _____.
5. We think that _____ ways are _____ than _____ ways.
6. We think that God is not any _____ than we _____.
7. We and the world don’t need a divine secretary _____ enough to manage. We need a _____ God.
8. Instead of _____ God to _____ your _____ in life, _____ God your meaning in life.

Exodus 20:4 (ESV) “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.