



Read: More abuse for the Lord of glory, this time from the military elite. Read [John 19:16 and Matthew 27:27-30](#) as you take in this next chapter in the terrible trauma Jesus endures.

Who is a God like ours? This is the question the prophet Micah poses. Read [Micah 7:18-20](#) aloud, listening to the heartbeat of God behind it. Read it a second time slowly and reflectively as you choose a word or phrase to go deeper.

Think: Review the passage again and ponder the word or phrase that stands out to you. What do you see of God's nature in this? What do you see about his heart for people? For you? Turn this word or phrase over and over in your mind—gently, like a fragile treasure.

Pray: Ask the Holy Spirit to impart God's message for you from this passage. What is he inviting you to consider? To do? To know? Open your heart and ask him to write his love deeply within you.

Rest: Sit quietly with what you have heard or sensed or experienced. Let all other thoughts go, except the reality of God's presence here and now, with you. Let him love you. If it helps, play worship music in the background. If your mind gets distracted, gently whisper "I receive your love" or "I love you, Lord."

Thorns, it seems, always accompany visits to glory. No one who has walked in Christ's presence will ever be allowed to strut.

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