

THUS SAITH THE LORD

A Call to Trust

Pastor Jeff Thompson | Malachi 3:6–12

Ice breaker

"What passion or activity did you lose interest in but wish you could start again?"

UNDERSTAND THEIR STORY—How did the original audience read this passage?

1. What things had Israel done that we see in Chapter 2 that the Lord had recounted for them?
2. How does Malachi 1:1-3:5 describe the character of God? How does knowing what God is like (v.6) bring you comfort?

CONNECT TO HIS STORY—Drawing a line to Jesus and how we see Christ in all of scripture

1. In verse 7 God calls the people to return to Him. As people living under the new covenant what makes it possible for you and me, who are not Israelites, to return to the Lord? What is your favorite gospel passage in the New Testament?
2. How do Malachi 3:8-10 and Matthew 6:25-34 emphasize the importance of trusting in God's provision?
3. What can these passages teach us about managing our resources and anxieties in light of God's promises?

APPLY TO OUR STORY

1. What makes obeying the Lord's statutes hard?
2. Which of the Lord's statutes have you turned away from? How have you been robbing the Lord of what He has called you to?
3. What does it look like to "return to the Lord" and walk in His ways?

Accountability

This is a time when we can break up into groups of 3-4 to discuss how to be accountable to each other this week.

1. Is there anything that you need to turn away from to return to the Lord?
2. What area—whether in resources or other areas—do you need to trust and obey the Lord?
3. How can we pray and encourage you to walk and remain in the Lord?

Prayer:

You can choose to pray as a group or in smaller groups.

1. Thank the Lord for his power, provision, and presence
2. Ask for help to live for him in the areas you struggle
3. Pray for others in your group to remain in the Lord