

MALACHI THE PROPHET

Malachi Unit 18, Lesson 4

what we learned

Malachi was a messenger—a prophet— who told God's people to repent. Malachi also told about another messenger God would send. This messenger, John the Baptist, would call people to repent and get them ready for a final Messenger, Jesus Christ. Jesus would bring good news of salvation.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. God communicated through Malachi that the people's lack of blessings didn't mean that God didn't care. God exposed His people's sins and made it clear that they needed to repent of their sinful actions and turn back to Him.
 - God is showing his people that repentance is a way to get closer to Him. Are there any sins that God will not forgive? What sins should we ask God to forgive?
 - When the people felt that God had left them in Jerusalem, they began to get lazy and did not offer their best to God. This made God sad. Even when we do not feel like God is with us, He is working all things for our good. Jesus offered the greatest sacrifice that will ever be given so that we could live free from our failures. What was this sacrifice?
- 2. Four hundred years of silence followed Malachi's prophecy; God did not communicate to His people. This period of silence brings us to the New Testament where John the Baptist broke the silence.
 - John the Baptist promised that there is a Savior that will come and will never leave us once we accept Him into our hearts. Who is this Savior?
 - Jesus tells us and shows us that His presence will always be with us. Where are some places where you see or feel the presence of Jesus?

Memory verse for this unit

"After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to HIs eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you."

- 1 Peter 5:10

PRAY TOGETHER

Spend time this week praising God for the ways that He is committed to His people and the ways He has redeemed us. Pray together that God would bring new life and new hope to members of your family, your neighbors, and our city through the Gospel.

Ask each member of your family – adults included – to share one thing they would like prayer for. Have someone to pray for that person's request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.

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