

God's Greatness and Love
Malachi 1:1-5
Sermon Discussion Questions
June 28, 2020

1. This message is the beginning of our summer sermon series through the book of Malachi, focusing on how sovereign, powerful and great our God is, and why he is to be honored.

What are your initial thoughts on this book? Is there a particular passage from Malachi that you're looking forward to hearing about?

Regarding today's message, was there anything said that you had been thinking of or experiencing in some way throughout the last week?

2. As a group, **read 2 Timothy 3:1-5**. One of the issues with Israel in Malachi is that they became complacent and indifferent, having a form of godliness but denying its power. Looking at the list present in 2 Timothy, what are some ways you have personally been complacent, indifferent and had a form of godliness in the past or now? As God used Malachi to speak to these areas with Israel, how has God come alongside you to show your complacency/indifference?
3. The beginning of Malachi 1:2 says: "'I have loved you,' says the Lord. But you ask, 'How have you loved us?'" Have you ever wrestled through this declaration and promise from God that he loves you? Pastor Tom mentioned that often, the problem of realizing that God loves us is with our expectations. That if God is all powerful and loves us, why do we get sick, deal with pain and etc. God's proof in loving us does not come by fulfilling our expectations, but by choosing us (**Read John 15:16**) like He did Israel. In what ways has God shown you that He's chosen and loved you this past week?
4. As a group, **read Malachi 1:5**. The main point of Malachi's message to Israel is **great is the Lord**. And when we recognize His greatness and submit to it, his love will flow over us, and we will not be able to remain complacent and indifferent. Is it difficult to submit to God's greatness? What are some stumbling blocks that keep us from marveling and submitting to His greatness?
5. Our time in Malachi will remind us of the greatness of God. As God will reveal through scripture His love for us, we will be called to honor Him as He deserves. Spend time praying that our hearts would be open to His love for us and His greatness. Pray that we would know and see these things no matter what obstacles of life are present. And pray that we will take this message and share it with others so that they too know they're loved and been chosen by God.