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Much Love!

Pastor Ed

Title: Lip Service

Text: Malachi 2:5-8

Target: A saving faith was never intended to be a secret faith, but instead a shared faith.

I. Ascribe-Worth to God: *"He stood in awe of my name."* (vs. 2:5)

- A. Created you:** *"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you..."* (Jeremiah 1:5a)
- B. Consecrated you:** *"Before you were born I consecrated you..."* (Jeremiah 1:5b)
- C. Called you:** *"I appointed you a prophet to the nation."* (Jeremiah 1:5c)
- D. Covered you:** *"I have put my words in your mouth"* (Jeremiah 1:9)

II. Acquainted with the Word of God: *"True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips."* (vs. 2:6a)

- A. Appetite for the Word:** *"I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my portion of food."* (Job 23:12)
- B. Abide in the Word:** *"his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night."* (Psalm 1:2)
- C. Apply the Word:** *"be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."* (James 1:22)

III. Aligned to Walk with God: *"He walked with me in peace and uprightness"* (vs. 2:6b)

- A. Walk Faithfully:** *(Enoch walked with God) "he was commended as having pleased God."* (Hebrews 11:5)
- B. Walk Humbly:** *"to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."* (Micah 6:8)
- C. Walk Blamelessly:** *"walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called."* (Ephesians 4:1)
- D. Walk Victoriously:** *"You shall walk in all the way that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that I may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess."* (Deuteronomy 5:33)

IV. Appointed to Witness for God: *"and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts."* (vs. 2:6b-7)

- A. Not ashamed of Jesus:** *"For I am not ashamed of the gospel"* (Romans 1:16a)
- B. Not afraid to share Jesus:** *"...for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..."* (Romans 1:16b)
 - 1. What do you think it takes to get to heaven?
 - 2. Do you mind if I tell you how the Bible answers that question?
 - 3. Would you like to accept Jesus as your Savior?
 - 4. Admit (Rom. 3:23) Believe (Rom. 5:8) Call (Rom. 10:13)

Takeaway: 3 Circles

