



GROUP GUIDE – *Standing on the Promises* - Wk 5

ARRIVAL / CONNECTING and SNACK: (15 minutes)

Spend the first 15 minutes or so of your time together catching up and socializing with one another. Follow up on prayer requests and any action steps from your last time together.

PRAY BRIEFLY FOR YOUR TIME TOGETHER: (2 minutes)

SCRIPTURE and DISCUSSION: (50 minutes)

“For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. ⁷From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord Almighty.” - Malachi 3:6-7a

- Why is it important to know that God doesn't change?

Our God is the same God who spoke to Noah, Abraham, Moses, the Prophets, John the Baptist, and the apostles. Christ came to fulfill the Old Testament covenants with his life, death, and resurrection. 2 Corinthians 1:20 says, *“For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.”*

- How has the finished work of Christ given us assurance that every promise that God has made to His people is relevant for today?

“But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ ⁸Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. ⁹You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you.” - Malachi 3:7b-9

- How had God's people fallen away from God based on the text above?
- How do we Christians of today rob God?

¹⁰“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe,” says the Lord Almighty. ¹²“Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land,” says the Lord Almighty.” - Malachi 3:10-12

- Describe God's promise of provision in verse 10?
- What would it look like for you to “test God” in His promise of blessing the giver?

Have three different people read these three passages, slowly and with a moment's quiet in between:

Galatians 6:6

Acts 4:32-35

Phil 4:15-16

- Do you think Paul makes a strong case for sacrificial giving to the local church? Explain your answer.
- When is the last time you asked God to show you how much you should give to your local church?

SURRENDER: (10 minutes) Each of you share “one thing you need” in order to live a life that stands on the promise of Malachi 3; one place where you need Christ to strengthen you.

CLOSING PRAYER: (10 minutes) Pray for one another in light of what was shared today.