



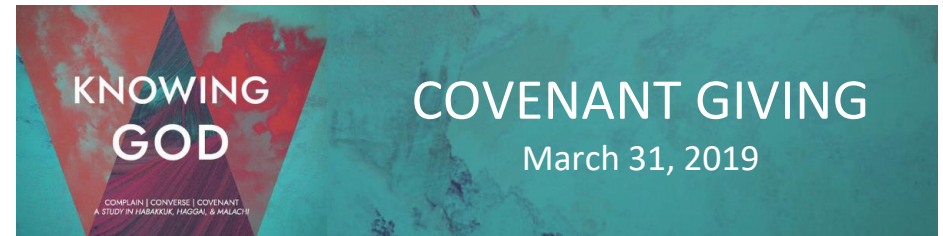
As the discussion leader, here are a few things to keep in mind for your Life Group: • **Pray** for your group discussion time! • **Review** your notes from Sunday's message and familiarize yourself with the discussion questions prior to your group meeting. • **Choose** a few questions from the guide which you feel will generate the most discussion in your group. For questions with multiple parts, answer the first part before reading the next part to the group. These questions are designed to build on the answer of the previous part before moving on.

Getting to Know Me

Have you ever received a blessing from someone out of the blue?

Exploring the Word – Malachi 3:10-18

1. As you listened to the message, what points stood out?
2. Read Malachi 3:10-12. Why does God invite the Israelites to test him with the tithe? Is it always right to test God? Why or why not?
3. How does God promise to bless the Israelites if they respond to his invitation? Similarly, in what ways does God promise to bless us when we are obedient to the tithe?
4. Read Malachi 3:13-15. Have you ever felt like the Israelites, that “those who do evil get rich, and those who dare God to punish them suffer no harm?” How can we explain when unbelievers appear to be blessed?
5. Read Malachi 3:16-18. Has Malachi's message seemed to impact most of his listeners positively thus far? How does God promise to treat those who fear him? How does He distinguish between the righteous and the wicked?
6. Have the messages regarding tithing and serving changed your attitude about giving? If so, in what ways?



Malachi 3:10-18

I. The grace in giving (v. 10)

- The tithe enables the _____ of Christ.
- Love of money has the ability to attract _____ and resist _____.
- God challenges us to _____ his nature through the tithe. (Deut. 6:15-16, Heb. 2:7-11)

II. The love in giving (vv. 11-12)

- God wants to provide for all of our _____ because he loves us.
- Love seeks to generously provide for the needs and _____ of “the other”.
- Stinginess is selfishness or fear that stems from misplaced _____.
- Love seeks to _____ resources to represent God's heart to others.

III. The sacrifice in giving (vv. 13-15)

- Consumerism relies on _____ to dismiss generosity.
- Love doesn't need to be _____ to spend or give.
- Generosity always comes at the price of _____.

IV. The relationship in giving (vv. 16-18)

- The most overlooked method of sanctification is _____.
- Covenant love seeks to be _____ others.
- God treasures people who value _____ more than stuff.