

Malachi Week 1

Covenant Love

Memory Verse:

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2

1) CATCH UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2) REVIEW THE MISSION

Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

Who can we pray for as a group to put their faith in Jesus? What step can you take in sharing the gospel with them?

3) DISCUSS AND ENGAGE

Since we follow Jesus we seek to apply the Gospel continually to all of life. God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25).

Have there been times in your life when you have questioned the love of God or the goodness of God? What led to that?

Read Malachi 1:1-5

Why did the people of God need to understand God's covenant love?

Why are they questioning the love of God?

What does God's response teach them? Teach us?

When we struggle with doubting the character of God, how should we counsel one another from the Scriptures?