Malachi Week 2

The Charade of False Worship

Memory Verse:

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

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)

We have friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, etc. in our lives that do not have saving faith in Jesus. This means, they are walking a path towards eternal punishment in hell. This should move our hearts and give us a sense of urgency to be missional. Take a few minutes to pray for this reality to result in action in our lives.

3) CARE NIGHT

We are called to bear one another's burdens and to walk in the light together, and that is what we are going to focus on this evening. Break up into gender-based groups and use these questions to guide you. Make sure your group members go back and listen to the sermon if they have not by group meeting time. Remember also to encourage one another to give good news before good advice. (Galatians 6:1-5, James 5:16, 1 John 1:5-10)

Malachi 1:5-14 shows us that the Israelites were giving the appearance of godliness through temple rituals (worship), but in actuality, they were profaning the name of God through the charade of false worship. This revealed their true heart.

Is there sin in your life that mirrors some of the sin we studied in Malachi 1:5-14 this week?

Is there hidden sin that needs to be confessed? Are the sin struggles that need to be brought into the light? What needs to be confessed to one another so that your life can match your outward worship?