



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 02/23/2020
DISCUSSION DATE: 03/01/2020
TEXT: MALACHI 3:13-18

I. THE DISTINCTION WE CANNOT AFFORD TO MISS (MAL 3:13-18).

A. The Distinguishing Marks Of Unbelief, (v.v. 13-15).

1. Unbelief causes us to speak against the Lord (v. 13).
2. Unbelief convinces us that there is no benefit in serving the Lord (v. 14).
3. Unbelief fills us with arrogance so that we charge God with injustice (v. 15).

B. The Distinguishing Marks of True Belief, (v.v. 16-18).

1. True belief lives in the FEAR of the LORD (v. 16).
2. True belief lives to honor and glorify our great God (v.v. 16-18).
3. True belief lives for future glory (v. 17).

ASK GOD FOR WISDOM TO APPLY HIS WORD IN OUR DAILY LIVES

What does God want us to desire/value?	What does God want us to know?	What does God want us to do?
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1. **Read Proverbs 18:2, 13, 17; 28:26.** How does God describe a fool and what kind of behavior does God describe as folly? Why does God warn us about trusting our own heart? Why do we think so much of our own opinions?
2. **Read Proverbs 14:12; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 7:18.** Why do we need to question what we believe to be right? What should that look like in our daily life – how about in our social media posts? What do we know about our hearts/flesh? How does believing this to be true impact our daily lives?
3. **Read Malachi 3:13; 1 John 1:9; Titus 2:11-12.** What does unbelief cause us to doubt about the Lord? How do we examine the words we speak against the Lord? What is the essence of confession? How does grace teach us? What evidences of grace does Titus teach us to look for in our lives?
4. **Read Malachi 3:14.** How do we examine what we believe about the value/benefit of serving the Lord? How does the world around us try to convince us that serving the Lord is not worth the sacrifice? What do we like to tell ourselves about our faithfulness and repentance? What do we expect God to do for us?
5. **Read Malachi 3:15; Psalm 73:27-28.** Why are we tempted to believe that arrogant people get ahead in life? What does such thinking say about God? How does Psalm 73 help us defeat this kind of unbelief? How do we draw near to God?
6. **Read Malachi 3:16; Deuteronomy 6:1-2, 24; 10:12, 20; Joshua 24:14; 1 Samuel 12:14.** How does Malachi contrast the living in unbelief verse living by faith? Who does God listen to when they pray? What characterizes the life of those who fear the Lord?
7. **Read Malachi 3:16-18; Matthew 6:9-10; 1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 1:18.** Who do we esteem the name of God? How do we hallow the name of God? What does it look like to do anything for the glory of God? How do we give Jesus the preeminence He deserves in our daily living?
8. **Read Malachi 3:17; Psalm 16:11; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10; Hebrews 6:10-12.** What has God promised to do for His people – those living by faith? How do anticipations shape our present decisions? What are we to wait for with eager anticipation? How do we know if we really believe God's promises of future reward for His children?