



At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7
Prophets & Promises Part 2: Elijah - Malachi
Unit 9, Lesson 47

Malachi and God's Message of Tithing

Lesson Aim: To know giving our tithes and offerings brings us closer to God.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What would you do with one million dollars?

GAME: Malachi, Malachi, Where's Your Scroll?

THE WORSHIP THE GOD WHO IS LORD OF ALL

Read Worship Scripture: Ephesians 1:3.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform The Love Sub script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD WANTED THE PEOPLE TO TITHE

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Haggai gave the people God's message to put Him first.

Point to Malachi (Circa 430 B.C.). **Malachi's message was for the people of Jerusalem. Point to Jerusalem. Malachi is the last book of the Old Testament. After Malachi gave his messages from God, there were over 400 years of silence until Jesus was born. Point to 400 Years of Silence (Circa 400-0 B.C.). Malachi told the people God loved them and the Lord they were seeking would come. Malachi told them how to honor God—that means to show Him the respect He deserves.**

Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Malachi 2:2; 3:7-10. Pray. Read.

THE WAY GOD WANTS OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Is money important to you? Did you know we can use our money to show God how important He is to us? God gives us a way to do that by giving our money as an offering for God's house, which is the church. If you have no money of your own, what offering can you give to God? (We can give an offering of thanks; we can give our time.) What are some ways we can serve God by giving our time?

Over one thousand years before Malachi lived, God made a rule that His people were to bring a certain amount of their riches or crops. That amount is called our tithes. Where did God tell the people to

bring their tithes and extra offerings? (Into God's storehouse.) God's storehouse is a name for God's house, which today is the church.

Malachi reminded the people that God wants us to choose to obey His rule. Giving our money to God's house is a way to worship Him and show we love Him. When the people kept their tithes and offerings for themselves, God said it was like robbing Him of what we owe Him. God made everything, so everything we have belongs to Him, including our money and treasures.

Malachi 3:10 says we should not test God, except in one way. Who can tell me what it is? (To see if He will bless those who tithe to His house.) God challenges us to make the choice to bring all our tithes into His storehouse to see if He will keep His promise to bless us.

What does God promise to pour out on those who give their tithes to His house? (Blessings.) Does God say what those blessings will be? (No.) Blessings are God's gifts to us. He does not promise to bless us with more money or good fortune. What kinds of blessings do you think we might receive? When we trust God with our treasures, we grow much closer to Him and we get to help build His kingdom. Those are the greatest blessings of all!

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Over 400 years after God told Malachi to challenge the people to give their tithes and offerings, Paul explained more about giving. Reveal 2 Corinthians 9:7. Read. God cares about our hearts. He wants our hearts to tell us how much to give. What kind of giver does God love? (A cheerful giver.) God wants us to enjoy giving to the church. The church uses offering money to help build God's kingdom. What makes you happy about giving your money to the church?

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Offerings Reminder
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: You giving one tenth of your riches to God's house or giving your thanks and your time to serve Him
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Math Munchies

GAME: Tithe Toss

CRAFT: Tithe Jars

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Praise Tag, Four Praise Corners

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW