



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
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: Zechariah 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, 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—to show Him the respect He deserves.** Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Malachi 2:2; 3:1, 7-10. Find and Highlight Key Verse First: Malachi 3:10. Pray. Read.

THE WAY GOD WANTS OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

What was the warning God gave Malachi? (For the people to set their hearts to honor God or He would send a curse.) **To honor someone is to show respect. How can we show respect for God? One way is to obey His commands. One of His commands is to give our tithes and offerings to His house. What does it mean to tithe?** (To give one tenth of your riches to God's house.) **If you have no money, what offering can you give?** (We can give an offering of thanks; we can give our time.) **What are some ways we can serve God by giving our time?**

How did God say the people were robbing Him? (By not bringing their tithes and offerings into His house.) **Everything we have belongs to God,**

including our money and treasures. Malachi 3:10 says we should not test God, except in one way. What is it? (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. The storehouse stands for God's house where we share our money with those who use it to build God's kingdom.**

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!**

God challenges us to test Him by tithing our own money. This week, take the total amount of money you have earned and ask a family member help you to subtract one tenth. If you are given a dollar each week as an allowance or as spending money, your tithe would be one tenth of that dollar, which is ten cents. If you are given two dollars, your tithe would be twenty cents. To tithe, bring that portion to God's house, the church. If you have no money, give an offering of your time. See what blessings He pours out on you!

CHRIST CONNECTION:

The Lord of all does not need our money; He owns everything. Why do you think He wants us to give? Jesus gave us the answer over 400 years after Malachi. Reveal Matthew 6:21, 24. Find It First. Highlight. Read. **How can giving your money and treasures to God help you to keep Him first in your heart?**

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