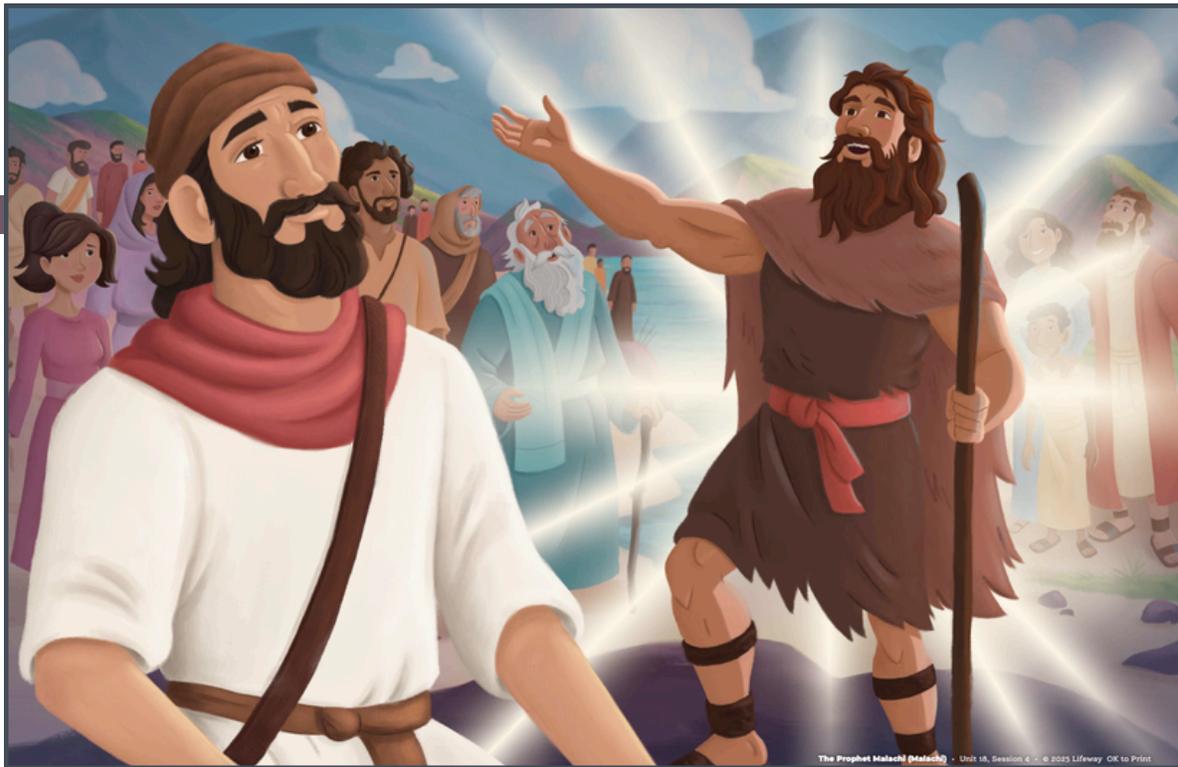


>>> COMMUNITY KIDS <<<

THE PROPHET MALACHI

MALACHI



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- **Mornings:** Thank God for His Word. Choose a verse from Psalms or Malachi to read. Pray for God to help you understand His message in that verse. How does God's Word help us know Him and His plan for our lives?
- **Evenings:** Ask God to forgive the ways you sinned and fell short of His glory today. Ask Him to remind you of His grace in Jesus. How does it feel to know that God does not count sin against those who trust in Jesus?

>>> MAIN IDEAS:

CHRIST CONNECTION:

THIS IS THE BIG IDEA OF HOW THIS WEEK'S BIBLE STORY POINTS TO JESUS:

Malachi told the people to turn away from sin as they looked forward to the promised Messiah. **Years later, God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus—the Messiah. Jesus brought a message of repentance and salvation.**

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What is the Bible about?

The Bible is the story of God's plan to save people through Jesus.

Dear Families,

The Pony Express was a special mail service that started in 1860 to carry important letters across the United States. Riders on horseback would travel through difficult terrain, including deserts, mountains, and forests, often battling harsh weather and dangerous animals. Each rider would travel 75 to 100 miles before passing the letter to the next rider. For people on the West Coast, the Pony Express was critical for them to get important messages.

When God wanted to deliver important messages to His people, He chose prophets like Malachi. Malachi told the people to get ready because God would judge people for their sin. This was the last message from God to His people as they waited for the promised Messiah, and for the messenger who would prepare the way for Him.

Thankfully, God's message of judgment also came with hope. **God was going to send a Savior, His own Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for sin and save all who trust in Him.** This message of good news has been passed from one generation to the next, and now we can continue to pass along the message.

Malachi told the people to turn away from sin as they looked forward to the promised Messiah. Years later, God sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus—the Messiah. Jesus brought a message of repentance and salvation.

Pray: *God, thank You for loving us enough to speak to us and give us Your message of hope. Help us to love Your Word and learn what it says about Jesus as the Messiah. We want to know Him and be prepared for the day when He comes again. Amen.*

FAMILY ACTIVITIES<<<

For Fun: Malachi spoke of God's unchanging love and faithfulness. Create a journal or scrapbook for your family to record the ways you see God's love and faithfulness to you. Each day this week, have a family member write or draw one thing they've experienced where they saw God's faithfulness in their lives—whether in everyday blessings, answered prayers, or moments of peace.

To Serve: The book of Malachi talks a lot about offerings to God. Talk as a family about the act of worship through giving. Encourage kids to give an offering at church or to think of how they can make giving a more regular practice in their lives.



UNIT MEMORY VERSE:

“These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.”

—John 20:31