

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: Offering What Matters

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: A Heart that Honors God

Date: 03/1/2026

Memory Verse: Malachi 3:8 NIV

Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'" In tithes and offerings.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: Honor God with your life by testing God with your finances.

Read Malachi 3

1. A messenger is going to prepare the way for the Lord (v 1). We see this fulfilled later by John the Baptist who is preparing the way for Jesus (Matthew 11:10). How can you be someone who is intentionally preparing the way for others to encounter Jesus? Who in your life might be more open to Jesus if they first experienced humility, love, or kindness through you?
2. The One who is coming will be like a refiner's fire. This isn't a fire that consumes to destroy, but one that heats to purify, removing the impurities to reveal the pure silver (vv 2-3). We often want God's comforting presence without His refining work. Are there areas of your life where you sense God refining you right now? How did He call it to your attention? What has that process felt like?
3. When we stray from God in our obedience He calls us to return to Him (v 7). If you've experienced a season of drifting, what were the subtle signs that you were moving away from the Lord? What was it that eventually drew you back? What anchor do you have in your life right now that helps prevent you



HOSPITALITY



MOVEMENT



CONTRIBUTE



COMMITMENT



ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES



SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

from drifting when life gets chaotic?

4. God uses the jarring language of robbing Him to describe the people withholding their tithes and offerings (v 8). Why does it feel more difficult to talk about the spiritual act of giving compared to other spiritual disciplines? In what ways has avoiding personal conversations about finances enabled neglect or complacency in our lives? How would our perspective on our bank accounts change if we viewed ourselves as "managers" of God's money rather than "owners" of our own?
5. If the people will be faithful and give a tenth, God promises abundant blessing (vv 10-13). Giving back to God is less about math and more about the heart. Do you see God as a desert or a fountain? Where does the concept of giving a tenth come from? What fears do you have that can make living generously difficult?
6. The Israelites feel as though it is useless to serve God because there does not seem to be any benefit (v 14). Why is the "What's in it for me?" question a dangerous question to focus on when it comes to our relationship with God? Why should our motives be for serving God?
7. The people look at the arrogant and the evildoers who "prosper" and "escape" trouble. They are wrestling with the age-old question of perceived injustice (v 15). Our sense of "fairness" is often limited to the present moment, whereas God's justice spans eternity. When you see "bad things happen to good people," does it tend to make you doubt God's power or His goodness? How can we lovingly share the hope of God's ultimate justice with the world?
8. God promises that those who belong to Him are treasured, distinguished not by perfection but by relationship and reverence (vv 17-18). Do you daily feel treasured by God? If that feels hard to believe, what internal voice or past experience is shouting louder than God's Word? What daily reminders can we look to to remind us of His love and care for us?



HOSPITALITY



MOVEMENT



CONTRIBUTE



COMMITMENT



ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES



SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP