



Prepare the Way

Malachi 3:1-4 | Session 10.49

Before the Session

- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Encourage your group to listen to the FaithElement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media).
- Find web links for underlined items on this session's webpage at faithelement.net.

Context

Play the Step Mom movie clip and ask:

- - Who is to blame for Anna's "delusion of her parent getting back together and why?
- - What are the parents doing wrong?
- - What is Anna, the child, doing wrong?
- - Why are we so quick to see other's fault and blame them but seem so often oblivious to our faults and mistakes?
- - Why is it so hard for us to simply say we were wrong?

Content

Read [Malachi 3:1-4](#), and watch the Bible Background Video before asking:

- - When you hear the phrase "my messenger," what do you think about?
- - Why does the Lord suddenly come to the temple?
- - How do you relate to the images of fire and soap?
- - Why is purification needed especially for the priestly class?
- - What are some ways that you think the Israelites became lazy about following God's law?
- - What are ways that we become weary of doing good in our faith journeys?

Closure

Play the [#Noseblind commercial](#) and continue by asking:

- - What are some reasons we have a difficult time recognizing our errors that need some restoration?
- - In what ways are we "noseblind" to our faults and errors?
- - How might they smell to others?
- - What acts do we need to take to bring the fresh smell back to our relationship with God?
- - In what ways does all this talk about "purification" relate to the idea of "peace," as celebrated during the Advent season?

Close in prayer.

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