



Prepare the Way

Malachi 3:1-4 | Session 10.49

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- 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 (From the Current Session Page)

Show the "Bridge of Death" video and ask:

- - What do you think of this video and why?
- - What's the toughest test you've ever taken and how did you get through it?
- - If someone asked you the three most important things to know in order to get through life, what would you say and why?

Content (From the Mind Session Page)

Read Malachi 3:1-4, and watch the Bible Background Video before asking:

- - At what points can we foresee the ministries of John the Baptist and Jesus in this prophecy?
- - The people are waiting eagerly for God's messenger to come, but how will that arrival be different than they expect?
- - What kind of discord and conflict did Jesus bring, according to [Matthew 10:34-39](<http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=410171411>) and how do we as Jesus' followers also sometimes bring this kind of unrest?
- - What is the point of all this unrest and how will this restore the relationship between God and God's people?
- - In what ways is Jesus' message causing unrest today?

Closure (from the Youth Session page)

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.