

## **Authentic Obedience**

Josh Hawley, Pastor of Community Life November 22, 2015

God's Wake-up Call to the Priest and the People Malachi 2:1-16

## **Applicational Thoughts:**

We need to pay close attention to the <u>message</u> our words
& actions are <u>communicating</u> about Who God is.

 We need to stop expecting God's blessing if we're not willing to <u>make changes</u>. Ask "How can I enrich my 'covenant relationships'?" ever day.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- $\circ\quad$  I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- o I am re-committing to follow Jesus today.
- I will identify one applicational thought to apply to my life this week.
- I will tell at least one trusted friend about my decision for prayer and accountability.



## All In Through Obedience

**Lesson Aim**: in order for God to bless us we need to be sure to learn and obey God's Word in our everyday lives.

**Prayer**: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your time together.

**Icebreaker:** As a group, see if you can come up with the ten commandments without looking in your Bible.

- 1. Reflecting on Josh's message on Sunday, is there anything that you felt led to apply to your life? What and why?
- 2. **Read Malachi 2:1-9**. Why is the Lord so tough on the priests? What have they done to deserve this?
- 3. How have the priests altered the Lord's description for them? What has been the effect of their actions on others?
- 4. Has anyone ever stumbled in their faith due to what you did or didn't do? Explain.

- 5. What would "life and peace" (verse 5) mean for your church' For your family?
- 6. Read Malachi 2:10-16. How had Judah (the Israelites) broken faith? With whom?
- 7. What has this to do with creation and covenant?
- 8. In your experience, how often is unanswered prayer due to unconfessed sin or a wrong heart attitude toward the Lord or others?
- 9. Read James 1:22-25. What does James say about the Word of God in these verses?
- 10. How can we apply the lessons of these verses about the Word of God to our daily lives? Any specific examples?

Close in prayer as God leads you.

Memory Verse of the Week: James 1:22