

Look Back: What did you discover about the things you are living for, and what they say about your faith in God? What is the next step you can take to grow in your faith?

Look Up:

Read [Malachi 3:6-9](#)

1. What does God tell us about Himself in verse 6? Who was He speaking to? Do his statements encourage/discourage you or both?
2. What did God tell the nation of Israel to do in verse 7? What does God promise that He will do in exchange? Why was it necessary for the people to act first?

Read [Malachi 3:10-12](#)

3. Why does God tell the nation of Israel to “put Him to the test”? What does this say about God and what He was trying to prove to them?
4. What additional promise did God make to the nation of Israel in verse 12? How is this significant to people today?

Read [2 Corinthians 9:6-13](#)

5. What do these verses say is the “source” of our generosity? How easy is it for you to trust this source and then show generosity to others?
6. What do these verses say are some of the personal or physical benefits of being generous? Which of these is most meaningful to you?
7. What do these verses say are some of the spiritual or eternal benefits of being generous? Which of these is most meaningful to you?

Overall (Discovery Bible Study)

- What do these scriptures say about God?
- What do they say about people?
- How will I apply this to my life?

Look Ahead: What would generosity cost you right now? How does this “test” your trust?

Notes

In the book of Malachi, God expresses an urgent desire for the people of Israel to return to Him as a demonstration of His grace and generosity. Under the new covenant of Jesus Christ, followers are reminded that generosity is the guide (not a law), that withholding generosity is unfaithfulness (not covenant theft) and that blessings are spiritual and individual (not material and national). Under the new covenant the test isn't whether God is faithful, it's whether we're willing to trust Him. It's not about testing God, but testing our doubts. One way to test your trust is in generosity. How much generosity does it take to get your heart involved?