

THE BIG PICTURE

Week 6

BRBC Groups

March 28, 2021

Scripture | Malachi 4:1-6, Luke 17:20-21

Ice Breaker

1. What are you looking forward to or waiting for right now?
2. Has anyone ever given you "the silent treatment"? Have you ever given it to someone? Why might being silent not help solve our interpersonal problems?

Going Deeper

1. What is something that stood out to you from this week's message? Do you have any questions about it?
2. Read Malachi 4:1-6
3. If someone in the group has a study bible, share the summary of Malachi. If no one has one, check out *The Bible Projects* video on YouTube and share it in your group video gathering to watch together if you can.
4. The term used for what God is sharing in this section is the Day of the Lord. Have you heard this term before? What is the Day of the Lord?
5. Is the Day of the Lord something the Israelites have on their radar? Is it something they were thinking of? How do we know?
6. What does God want the Israelites to know about The Day of the Lord? Is this a warning or an encouragement? Or both?
7. Malachi is the last prophetic voice the people of God heard until the New Testament period. With that in mind, what is the importance of verses 4 and 5?
8. If Malachi was representing God to us, what sort of things do you think he would say to us based on your understanding of this book?
9. Read Luke 17:20-21
10. Prophets like Malachi were constantly pointing to a time when God would be the sovereign ruler, when the Kingdom of God would be present. The Pharisees had an idea of a timeline of when this would happen, so they asked Jesus when it would happen. Do you think Jesus' response is the answer they were looking for? How might it have been different?
11. Depending on your translation, Jesus either says the Kingdom of God is within you or in your midst. What does that statement mean? Is there a difference between within and in your midst based on the context of the text? Why or why not?
12. In the message this week, Rob mentioned there is a now and not yet aspect of the Kingdom of God. What did that mean? Why does that matter?
13. How should we live because the Kingdom of God is now and not yet?
14. If you were to self-reflect, would you say you are living in the Kingdom of God now or more waiting for the not yet part of it?