

Week 2: How have we despised your name?

Read Malachi 1:6-2:9

• Initially, what stands out to you?

Watch the Video: Session II

- What did you see in the video that means the most to you?
- What questions do you have?

Our Worship of God

- God called Israel to meaningful worship of him. Thinking about your own worship of God, discuss the following questions in small groups:
 - o Who do you admire for their devotion? What does your worship of God look like when it reflects devotion?
 - O How does our worship reveal how highly we esteem God's name?

Worshiping Our Father

- In the video, Pastor Jon talked about how the word "worship" actually is derived from the term "worthship". God showed himself to be a Father to Israel, but Israel, particularly the priests, despised God's name. Continue in small groups and discuss the following questions:
 - o How had God showed himself to be a Father to the people of Israel? How has God shown himself to be a Father to you?
 - What are some contemporary characteristics of worthless worship? Why do you think these characteristics exist?

Assessing Our Worship (Large Group Discussion)

- How might we fall into the trap of reflecting Israel's hypocrisy in v. 9?
- How can we assess what is claiming our highest worship?



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Read 1 Chronicles 16:23-31

- What picture of worship is described in this passage?
- What should dictate the focus of our worship? What do we bring, if anything, to worship?

Godly Leaders

- In small groups, discuss the following questions:
 - Leaders have an important and special task. List some of the ways you have seen people lead others away from God's Word. What did they teach? How did they live?
 - O Do you think that all Christians should see themselves as leaders in a way? Why or why not? Why do you think leaders are judged more strictly?

Where do we go from here? (Large Group Discussion)

- How does the coming of Christ empower meaningful worship greater than was possible in the Old Testament?
- What does it mean to be a man or woman of godly commitment like Levi, and how do we see this perfectly manifested in Jesus?



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