



MALACHI 1:1-5: WHERE IT ALL BEGINS

SHARINGSTORIES

We are all homesick for that place of simplicity and beauty that characterized the creation before the chaos of sin. Everyone in this world longs to find a beauty that we hope can emerge from that chaos, and everyone shapes their life around that hope. Malachi is God's response to a people who were living in chaos. He begins by saying, "I have loved you." Rather than giving us a list of priorities or seven steps to emerging from the chaos, He calls us to wrestle with the concept that He has loved us. Beauty emerges as we commit to the journey of wrestling with God.

What does it mean to you personally that God loves you?

When did you first truly understand His love for you?

Have you ever had an encounter with God's love? If so, describe it. If not, what do you think this would look like?

DIGGINGIN

What does this passage show us about God's love for us?

How is it relevant for our understanding of God's love today?

GOINGDEEPER

Read about Paul's battle with his affliction in 2 Corinthians 12.

How did Paul come to be able to say "God's grace is sufficient" with all his heart?

What do you need to face to be able to fully accept God's love?

PRAYER

Spend this time discerning how best pray for one another. Find one thing to praise God for in each person's life and make one request on their behalf.

Praise God for giving us the opportunity to be a body of believers and to show His love to the world. In particular, thank God for allowing us to help our missionaries.

REFLECTION

What one idea is the Spirit impressing on your mind and heart from this passage?

MALACHI BEAUTYFROMCHAOS