



## RETURN TO ME —

God's Messenger (Malachi 2:1-9) - Return to Me - May 8-9, 2021  
STUDY NOTES || LIVE PREACHING

Are we faithful messengers?

Am I a faithful messenger?

“And now, O priests, this commandment is for you. **Malachi 2:1 NKJV**

If you will not hear, And if you will not take *it* to heart, To give glory to My name,” Says the Lord of hosts, “I will send a curse upon you, And I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already, Because you do not take *it* to heart. **Malachi 2:2 NKJV**

Behold, I will rebuke your descendants, And spread refuse on your faces, The refuse of your solemn feasts; And *one* will take you away with it. **Malachi 2:3 NKJV**

Then you shall know that I have sent this commandment to you, That My covenant with Levi may continue,” Says the Lord of hosts. **Malachi 2:4 NKJV**

“My covenant was with him, *one* of life and peace, And I gave them to him *that he might* fear Me; So he feared Me And was reverent before My name. **Malachi 2:5 NKJV**

The law of truth was in his mouth, And injustice was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, And turned many away from iniquity. **Malachi 2:6 NKJV**

For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And *people* should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. **Malachi 2:7 NKJV**

But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi,” Says the Lord of hosts. **Malachi 2:8 NKJV**

“Therefore I also have made you contemptible and base Before all the people, Because you have not kept My ways But have shown partiality in the law.” **Malachi 2:9 NKJV**

**Are we faithful messengers?**

**Am I a faithful messenger?**

## NURSERY

## JESUS CARES

THE GOOD SAMARITAN



Toddlers are ready and willing helpers! Helping others gives toddlers a sense of self-satisfaction and allows them the opportunity to reach out to others and experience the good feelings that come from showing they care. It's important to help toddlers see that Jesus cares for us and wants us to care for others, too. The lessons in this series will encourage your toddler to look for ways to help others and show that they care.

**Memory Verse:** "Jesus Cares." 1 Peter 5:7 (adapted for toddlers)

**Heart of the Lesson:** We Are Thankful That Jesus Cares

**Parent Engagement:** Eat a snack of apple or orange slices. As you eat your snack together, hold a slice of apple/orange in front of your mouth to make a smile. Help your toddler make a smiley face with his/her snack too! As you play together say, "I'm happy that Jesus cares for everyone."

## GKJR

## THE EARLY CHURCH

PETER AND PAUL



This month in GKJr we get to follow the exciting adventures of Peter and Paul as Jesus used them to help the early church get started. We will learn how Jesus wants us to be brave and tell others about Him and He will help us.

**Memory Verse:** "They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.' Acts 16:31

**Heart of the Lesson:** Jesus Saves - Saul Conversion - Acts 9

**Parent Engagement:** Play a game of I Spy and talk about today's story - how Saul was blinded as he met Jesus (and later healed). If applicable, share your conversion story with your kids. How did you choose Jesus Lord in your life?

## ELEMENTARY

## Jesus vs. The World



The world tells us a lot of things and if we aren't careful, it is easy to start listening to the world and acting like the world. The Bible tells us that God's kingdom is the opposite of the world and therefore the way we live should be different from the ways of this world. In this series, we are going to break down what Jesus tells us vs. what the World tells us. The victory is already won but you have to decide who you are going to let win in your life!

**Memory Verse:** Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect Romans 12:2

**Heart of the Lesson:** In God's Kingdom, It's About Our Savior Not Our Stuff - Matthew 9:9-13, Luke 9:23, Psalm 16:11

**Parent Engagement:** This week, start your morning with a simple prayer: "Jesus, what would you like me to focus on today, not what I want. Help me to follow you today." Follow up with how it went at dinner.

G56

## YOU ASKED FOR IT



During the month of May we will be answering tough questions that the 5th and 6th graders have asked. The students will engage in small groups to discover what the Bible says about their question, and then discuss with the whole group what they found out!

**Memory Verse:** Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8

**Heart of the Lesson:** Can Jesus still perform miracles? Psalm 77:14, Mark 16:17, Acts 2:22, Acts 3, Acts 19, Ephesians 2:20-22, Ephesians 3:20-21

**Parent Engagement:** Have your student role-play how they would answer today's question if a friend asked them.