GIVING AND THE GIVER DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MALACHI 3:6-

1	What does Malachi 3:6 reveal about God's character? How would this have encouraged and given hope to the original audience? How does this encourage you personally?
	➡ How would you encourage believer who has strayed into sin to return to the Lord? What principles from Mal. 3:7 could be an encouragement?
2	Malachi 3 addresses the subject of giving to the Lord. What makes talking about money in church services potentially awkward?
	Why is giving of our finances to the Lord important? Think of how our relationship with finances relates to our hearts.
	Why do you think we struggle with giving even when we live in such relative abundance?
	♥ How can our giving serve as an important barometer of our love for God? Contrast those thoughts with how a lack of generosity can be an indicator of unbelief?

	♥ What would growth in your love for God look like specifically in the realm of your financial stewardship?
3	How are New Testament Christians supposed to understand the promised blessing in Malachi 3:10-11? How have some misused or abused texts like this?
4	What was the purpose of the Old Testament tithe? (Deuteronomy 14:28-29, Numbers 18:21)
	How do you think New Testament Christians should think about the concept of the tithe? Discuss how the idea is adapted in the New Testament using passages like 2Cor. 9:6-7; Matt. 6:4-2; 1Tim. 5:18; Romans 12:1-3; 1Cor. 16:2; Phil. 4:19.
5	How should Christians think about stewardship at large?
	Discuss questions like: "What might be reasons not to give? What might be causes not to give to? Should our giving only be focused on or funneled through the church? Why or why not?"
6	What ideas do you have for nurturing cheerful giving to the Lord?