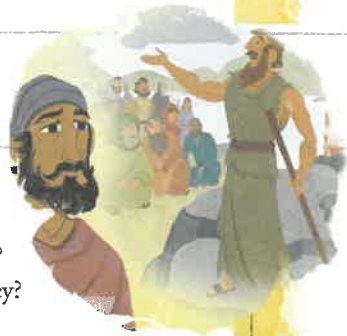


# Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

## FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- Why do we offer our best to God?
- How did God offer His best to us?
- Who was the messenger Malachi said would come before Jesus?

## Malachi the Prophet

Malachi

**STORY POINT: MALACHI CALLED GOD'S PEOPLE TO REPENT TO PREPARE FOR THE MESSIAH.**

God loved His people, and He wanted them to be holy. He wanted them to obey Him completely. So God sent a message to His people through the prophet Malachi. He told the people about their sins and called them to turn back to Him.

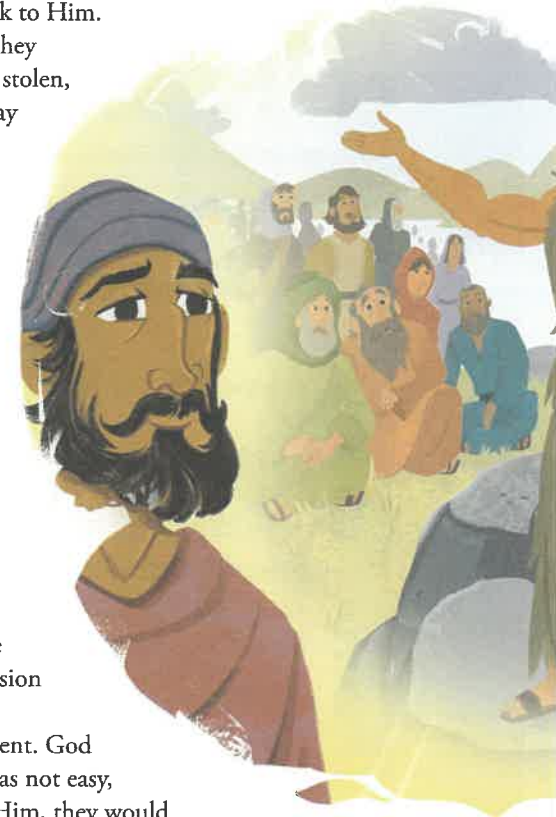
The priests had disobeyed God. They offered as sacrifices animals that were stolen, lame, or sick. They turned people away from God and taught them wrong things.

God warned that a day of judgment is coming when God will punish sin and reward righteousness. God would send a messenger to get people ready for God's promised Messiah. Next, God talked about some of the wrong things the people were doing. They were not offering to God a share of their wealth. Some of the people were saying things about God that weren't true.

Other people did honor God, and God noticed them. "They will be Mine," God said. "I will have compassion on them."

Malachi told the people to be patient. God had not forgotten about them. Life was not easy, but if they served God and followed Him, they would be happy on the day when God would keep His promise to rescue His people.

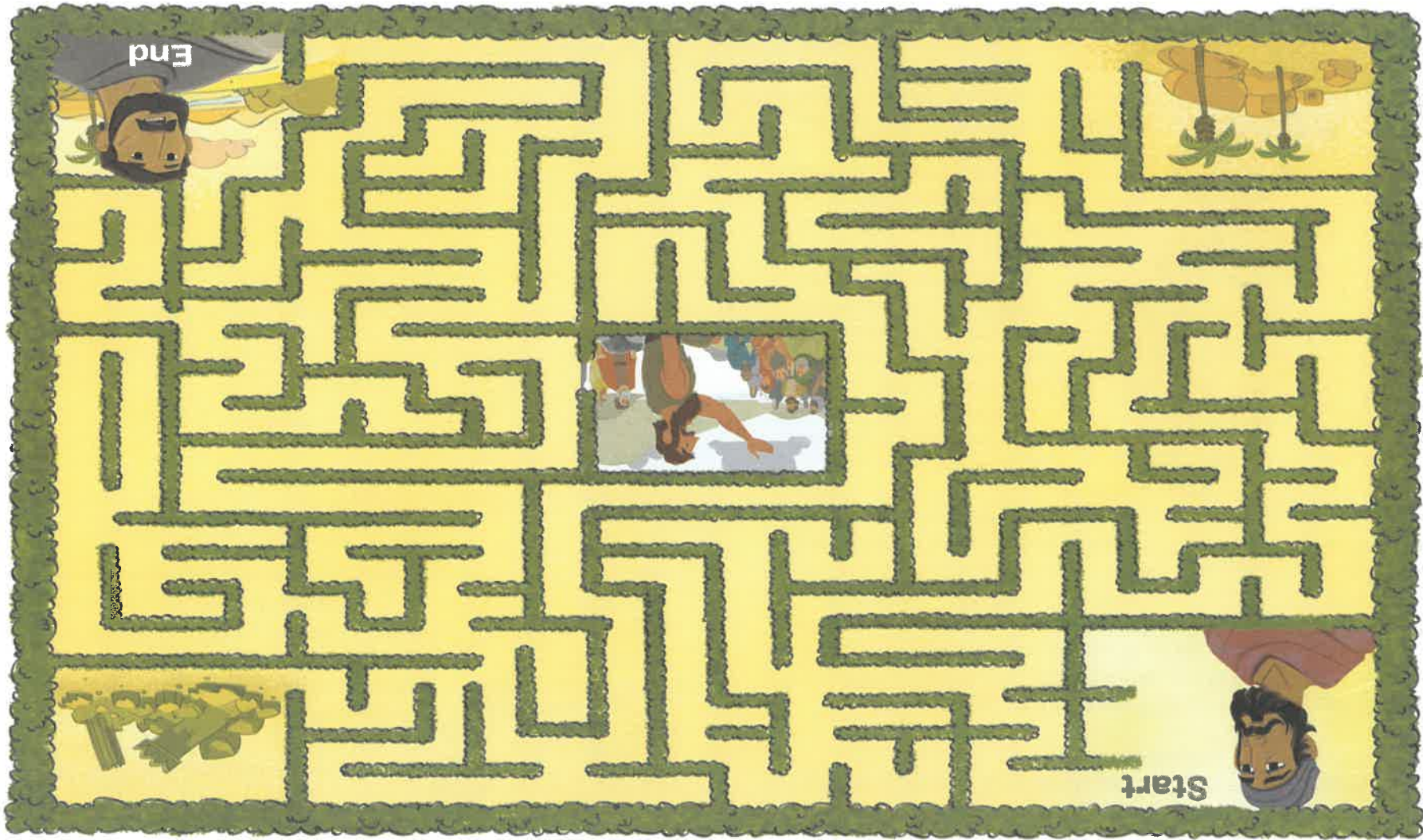
*Christ Connection: Malachi was a messenger—a prophet—who told God's people to repent. Malachi also told about another messenger God would send. This messenger, John the Baptist, would call people to repent and get them ready for a final Messenger, Jesus Christ. Jesus would bring good news of salvation.*



### The Next Letter

Can you decode this message?  
Hint: Each provided letter points to the next letter in the alphabet.

I D R T R I D R T R H R H R B N L H M F



A Messenger | Complete the maze from Malachi to John the Baptist and then to Jesus.