



## Malachi: Decisions, Decisions, Decisions

### 玛拉基书：选择，选择，选择

Every day we make thousands of small decisions, from the mundane to the significant, and these decisions shape the direction of our lives. The minor prophets, culminating in Malachi, call God's people back from apathy and half-hearted devotion, challenging us to choose who we will serve. Spiritual growth is built in the everyday: each small decision either draws us closer to Jesus or steers us away. God's ultimate call is relational: He wants our hearts. When we respond, our lives, actions, and blessings flow from that choice. This week, we'll talk about small decisions that change eternity.

每天，我们都会做出成千上万个决定，从日常琐事到重大抉择，而这些决定塑造了我们人生的方向。小先知书，最终以《玛拉基书》收尾，呼召神的子民从冷漠和半心半意的敬拜中回转，挑战我们要选择所要事奉的对象。属灵的成长是在日常生活中建立起来的：每一个小小的决定，不是使我们更亲近耶稣，就是使我们远离祂。神最终的呼召是关系性的：祂要我们的心。当我们回应的时候，我们的生命、行为和祝福，都会从这个选择而流出。本周，我们要谈论那些能改变永恒的小决定。

### Introduction: Thousands of Decisions 引言：成千上万的决定

Thanks for joining us today! Every choice brought you here — and I'll never know about those who didn't. Haere mai!

感谢你今天与我们同聚！你每一个决定把你带到这里——而那些没有来到的，我永远不会知道。Haere mai! (毛利语：欢迎！)

It's generally accepted by researchers that the average adult makes 33,000 to 35,000 decisions every

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day, including what we'll eat, what we'll wear, what we'll say, how we'll say it, which roads to take to work; and then there are the more deliberate decisions about our relationships, finances, and our life direction. Gerald Zaltman, a Harvard Business School professor, suggests that about 95% of our decisions occur in our subconscious mind through information we've gathered as we journey through life and as we interpret information about what is 'good' or 'bad.' Interestingly, 226.7 of our daily decisions are specifically about food alone ... flat white or long black? Vogels or Molenberg? Could I sneak in a Whittaker's Peanut Slab before dinner? Even these tiny decisions can reveal what, and who, we truly love.

研究人员普遍认为，一个成年人每天大约要做三万三千到三万五千个决定，包括吃什么、穿什么、说什么、怎么说、上班走哪条路；还有更深思熟虑的选择，比如我们的关系、财务和人生方向。哈佛商学院教授 Gerald Zaltman 指出，大约 95% 的决定是在潜意识中作出的，是根据我们生命历程中所收集的信息，以及我们对“好”与“坏”的理解来决定的。有趣的是，我们每天大约有 226.7 个决定仅仅与食物有关……是要点一杯 *flat white* 还是 *long black*？是吃 Vogels 还是 Molenberg 的面包？晚饭前能不能偷偷来一块 Whittaker's 的花生巧克力？即便是这些微不足道的决定，也能显露出我们真正所爱的是谁，或是什么。

The sheer volume of decisions we face every day helps explain why spiritual disciplines and habits are so important – the ongoing decisions we make to embrace them help automate some of our God-facing rhythms so that we don't have to rely on decision-making energy for every spiritual moment throughout the day.

每天面对如此庞大的决策数量，这也解释了为什么属灵操练和习惯如此重要——我们不断选择去持守这些操练，使我们与神同行的节奏能够逐渐成为一种自然选择，而不至于每一个属灵的时刻都要耗费我们额外的精力去决策。

### **Prophets: Ancient Voices | Modern Hope 先知：古老的声音 | 现代的盼望**

Today we finish an 8-week series looking at the minor prophets, hearing their ancient words that still echo God's heart today. These prophets consistently call people back to God when they've wandered away. They remind us of God's passionate pursuit of His people, His covenant love, and His desire for justice, restoration, and hope. Through Amos, Hosea, Micah, Joel, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah, God called His people back to Himself — a call that finds its ultimate yes in Jesus, who draws us into full life and restored hearts. Jesus shows us the fullest expression of God's call. Following Him is the way to a meaningful life: to know God's love, to embody it, and to serve others. Spiritual growth isn't just about self-improvement; it's about becoming more like Jesus in thought, word, and deed. Every small

decision we make either aligns us with Him or distances us from Him.

今天，我们要结束为期八周的小先知书系列，聆听那些古老的话语，它们至今仍回响着神的心意。这些先知不断地在百姓偏离的时候呼召他们归向神。他们提醒我们神对祂子民的热切追寻、祂的约之爱，以及祂对公义、复兴和盼望的渴望。借着阿摩司、何西阿、弥迦、约珥、哈巴谷和西番雅，神呼召祂的子民归向祂——而这呼召在耶稣里得到了最终的应许。耶稣吸引我们进入丰盛的生命和更新的心。耶稣向我们显明了神呼召的最完全表达。跟随祂才是通往有意义生命的道路：认识神的爱、活出神的爱，并服事他人。属灵的成长不只是自我提升，而是思想、言语和行为都更像耶稣。我们所做的每一个小决定，不是跟随祂的脚步与祂同行，就是远离祂。

If we combine all the prophetic words, there's not one big decision - they call us to thousands of small, everyday decisions that shape our lives and draw us closer to Jesus.

若将所有先知的话语结合起来，我们会发现它们并非只呼召人做一次重大的决定——而是呼召我们在每天的成千上万个决定中，塑造我们的生命，并使我们更亲近耶稣。

We end the series today by looking at the last book of the Old Testament, a book that was then followed by 400 years of silence - what is called the intertestamental period.

今天，我们要用旧约的最后一本书作为系列的结束。而在这卷书之后，随之而来的是长达四百年的沉默——这段时期被称为“两约之间的时期”。

## **Malachi 玛拉基书**

In the book of Malachi, the people that he was speaking too were, just like those the other prophets were speaking too, making countless small decisions that revealed where their true loyalties lay - we encounter a people who stood at the crossroads of choice. They had returned from exile, rebuilt their temple, and yet found themselves spiritually drifting. Think of it as the ancient equivalent of joining the local gym in January - new gear, download the Strava app, lots of enthusiasm, but by February your membership card is just propping up a wobbly table leg at home. They're being asked whether they would decide to follow God wholeheartedly, or would they settle for something less.

在《玛拉基书》中，先知所面对的人，就像其他先知所面对的一样，他们不断在日常的小决定中显露出自己真正的忠诚归属——他们正站在选择的十字路口。他们已经从被掳中归回，重建了圣殿，但属灵的生命却渐渐漂移。可以把这比作古代版的“一月办健身房卡”：新装备到手，下载好 Strava，满怀热情；但到了二月，健身卡却成了家里一张摇晃桌脚的垫片。他们被迫要回答这样的问题：他们是否要全心全意地跟随神，还是满足于不冷不热的信仰？

Malachi speaks to a people who had grown comfortable with half-hearted devotion, who had begun to question whether following God was truly worth it. Basically, Malachi was asking them the

question that Bob Dylan intimates in his 1979 song that says, *'It may be the devil, or it may be the Lord, but you're gonna have to serve somebody.'* Ancient Malachi and [kindof] modern Bob Dylan are suggesting that we have a decision to make – who will we serve?

玛拉基对那些安于半心半意敬拜、甚至开始怀疑跟随神是否值得的人说话。归根结底，玛拉基所提出的问题，与 Bob Dylan 在 1979 年歌曲中所暗示的一样：“你必须事奉某一个，不是魔鬼，就是主。”古代的玛拉基和近代的 Bob Dylan 都在提醒我们：我们必须作出一个决定——我们要事奉谁？

This is not an unfamiliar question in the Bible. Back in the 6<sup>th</sup> book of the Bible, Joshua said to the people of Israel (24:15), *If serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.* Decisions to make – who are you going to serve? And through the prophets and ever since, we have seen that whatever decision we make about that, there will be consequences.

这在圣经中并不是一个陌生的问题。早在圣经的第六卷书《约书亚记》里，约书亚就对以色列人说 (24:15)：“若是你们以事奉耶和华为不好，今日就可以选择所要事奉的：是你们列祖在大河那边所事奉的神呢？是你们所住这地的亚摩利人的神呢？至于我和我家，我们必定事奉耶和华。”我们必须作出决定——你要事奉谁？而先知们乃至直到今日都一再提醒我们：无论我们作出什么选择，都会带来相应的后果。

Malachi is a unique book in the Old Testament because of its literary form and structure; we see an ongoing 'conversation' between God and his people, people who have quite obviously become apathetic towards their relationship with Him. If we had looked at Haggai and Zechariah as part of this series, we would have seen that God spoke through them to warn about complacency, and in Malachi this pattern continues, apathy and complacency in their spiritual lives seems to rule the day. It's not the same today, surely?! Well let's be honest, as much as a lot of things have changed over a long time, a lot of things haven't, and this is something we all wrestle with in a society like ours that worships self-sufficiency and individualism.

《玛拉基书》在旧约中是一本独特的书，因为它的文学形式和结构，展现了一段持续的“对话”——在神与祂的百姓之间，而这些百姓对与神的关系已经显出明显的冷淡。如果我们在系列中也查考过《哈该书》和《撒迦利亚书》，就会看到神藉着他们警告百姓不可自满；而在《玛拉基书》中，这一模式依旧延续：属灵上的冷漠和自满似乎成了当时的主流。今天不会这样吧？！但说实话，虽然许多事物随着时间而改变了，但许多事物并没有改变。在一个崇尚自给自足和个人主义的社会里，这正是我们每一个人都在挣扎的问题。

So, God speaks through Malachi, which simply means 'The Messenger.' The name Malachi wasn't

really a real name at the time it was written, so some scholars attribute this book to Ezra – however a discussion on authorship is for another day but doesn't distract from the message that God is bringing.

所以，神藉着玛拉基来说话，而“玛拉基”这个名字的意思就是“使者”。在当时，“玛拉基”并不是一个常见的人名，因此有学者认为这卷书可能是以斯拉所写——不过关于作者身份的讨论可以留待别日，并不影响神藉着这卷书所要传递的信息。

The uniqueness of the book of Malachi is the **constant questioning of the people to God**; there isn't another book like it in the Bible. And let's be honest, they sound like a bunch of whiners. Spread through the first three chapters of Malachi are eight interactions between God and His people that show cumulatively they are showing that their daily decisions are building distance between them and God, as they shoot back with complaints about what He's saying. Let's look at these interactions that start in ...

《玛拉基书》的独特之处在于，神的百姓不断地向神发问；圣经中没有另一本书是以这种方式写成的。坦白说，他们听起来就像是一群不断抱怨的人。在玛拉基书前三章中，我们看到神与祂百姓之间的八次互动，累积地表明他们日常的选择如何使自己与神之间的距离越来越远——他们不断顶撞、质疑神所说的话。我们来看看这些互动，从.....

1. Malachi 1:2 where God says, ***“I have loved you,” says the Lord. But you ask, “How have you loved us?”*** And God goes on to answer that question.

玛拉基书 1:2: **耶和华说：“我曾爱你们。”你们却说：“你在何事上爱我们呢？”**神接着回答了这个问题。

2. In Malachi 1:6, God is addressing even the priests who were showing apathy towards Him, ***“It is you, O priests, who show contempt for my name.” But you ask, “How have we shown contempt for your name?”***

在玛拉基书 1:6，神甚至责备那些对祂冷漠的祭司为：**“藐视我名的祭司”.....“你们却说：“我们在何事上藐视你的名呢？”**

3. God replies in Malachi 1:7, ***“You place defiled food on my altar.” But you ask, “How have we defiled you?”*** And God goes on to answer that question.

神在玛拉基书 1:7 回答：**“你们将污秽的食物献在我的坛上。”你们却说：“我们在何事上污秽你呢？”**神接着回答了这个问题。

4. In Malachi 2:13-14, we see the fourth interaction where God says, ***“Another thing you do: you***

**flood the Lord's altar with tears. You weep and wail because He no longer pays attention to your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands.” You ask, “Why?”** And God goes on to answer that question.

在玛拉基书 2:13-14，我们看到第四次互动，神说：“你们又行了一件这样的事，使前妻叹息、哭泣的眼泪遮盖耶和华的坛，以致耶和华不再看顾那供物，也不乐意从你们手中收纳。”你们还说：“这是为什么呢？”神接着回答了这个问题。

5. A few verses later in Malachi 2:17 we see the prophet saying, **“You have wearied the Lord with your words.” “How have we wearied him?” you ask.** And Malachi goes on to answer that question.

在玛拉基书 2:17，先知说：“你们用言语烦琐耶和华。”你们还说：“我们在何事上使祂烦琐呢？”玛拉基接着回答了这个问题。

6. In the next chapter we see a return to one of the themes we’ve already talked about in Malachi 3:7, **“Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord Almighty. But you ask, “How are we to return?”** And then this discussion gets a little spicy when in ...

在下一章，主题又回到我们刚刚提过的：玛拉基书 3:7：“万军之耶和华说：‘从你们列祖的日子以来，你们常常偏离我的典章而不遵守。现在你们要转向我，我就转向你们。’你们却说：‘我们如何才是转向呢？’”而接下来的对话就更“刺激”了……

7. Malachi 3:8 where God replies with a question, **“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me.” But you ask, “How do we rob you?”** And God goes on to answer that question.

玛拉基书 3:8：“人岂可夺取神之物呢？你们竟夺取我的供物。”你们却说：“我们在何事上夺取你的供物呢？”神接着回答了这个问题。

8. The last interaction we see is in Malachi 3:13 where we read, **“You have said harsh things against me,” says the Lord. Yet you ask, “What have we said against you?”** And Malachi goes on to answer that question.

最后一次互动在玛拉基书 3:13：“耶和华说：‘你们用话顶撞我。’你们还说：‘我们用什么话顶撞了你呢？’”玛拉基接着回答了这个问题。

This sounds like our teenage kids answering every request we give them with, **“But whyyy?”**

这听起来很像我们的青少年孩子，对我们提出的每一个要求都要回答一句：“可为什么呀？”

We could look at each one of these interactions separately, because by themselves they're all individual decisions that people have made that have moved them further from God. Each one could be solved by itself, but each little question, each little decision to ignore God, builds upon the previous one to create an ongoing theme of complacency and apathy that gradually but consistently separates them further from the God who has shown His faithfulness over many generations.

我们可以把这八次互动分别来看，因为每一次都代表着百姓所作出的一个具体选择，使他们离神更远。每一个问题都可以单独解决，但当他们一次次发问、一次次在小决定里忽视神，这些选择就层层叠加，逐渐形成一种冷漠和自满的属灵状态，把他们一步步推离那位世世代代信实的神。

For a moment, let's look at just one of these interactions, the one that many of you know, and in my opinion the one that is most often misused. Again, we read in Malachi 3:8-12, ***"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me." But you ask, "How do we rob you?" "In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse - the whole nation of you - because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the Lord Almighty. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty.***

现在，让我们稍稍聚焦其中一次互动，那是大家最熟悉的一段，也是我认为最常被误用的一段。我们再读一遍 **玛拉基书 3:8-12**：***“人岂可夺取 神之物呢？你们竟夺取我的供物。你们却说：‘我们在何事上夺取你的供物呢？’就是你们在当纳的十分之一和当献的供物上。因你们通国的人都夺取我的供物，咒诅就临到你们身上。万军之耶和华说：你们要将当纳的十分之一全然送入仓库，使我家有粮，以此试试我，是否为你敞开天上的窗户，倾福与你们，甚至无处可容。万军之耶和华说：我必为你们斥责蝗虫（原文是吞噬者），不容它毁坏你们的土产。你们田间的葡萄树在未熟之先也不掉果子。万军之耶和华说：万国必称你们为有福的，因你们的地必成为喜乐之地。”***

Ever heard this Scripture used as a way of getting you to give all your 'tithe' to the Church, the firstfruits – before tax, and if you do, God will open the floodgates of heaven, and your wealth will be such that all people will call you blessed. But if you don't, you're robbing God, and that's very naughty.

你是否曾听过这段经文被用来劝人把所有的“十一奉献”都交给教会，连同“初熟的果子”——在纳税之前就要先交出来？这样的话，神就会为你敞开天上的窗户，把福分倾倒下来，甚至多到众人都要称你为有福的。反之，如果你不这样做，那就是在“偷窃神”，这是非常不对的。

I want to suggest to you that in the context of the **eight** interactions we've looked at, this is just **one** example of the apathetic spirituality that God's people were living out. Of course, under the law [that Jesus fulfilled], tithing was something that was expected, but the bigger principal that Malachi is highlighting is that apathy leads to selfishness; when we take our eyes off God it affects all the ways that we live, and that then affects others, as the tithing referred to in this passage is that of actual produce, which the priests were responsible for distributing to those in need. So, apathy results in selfishness that results in the needs of the marginalised going unmet. This example is just one of eight that paint a much bigger picture of the many small decisions resulting in deeper separation from God and His purposes for the world.

我想提醒大家，在我们刚才所看的八次互动的背景下，这里只是其中一个例子，反映出百姓属灵上的冷漠。诚然，在律法之下（而基督已经成全了律法），十一奉献是神所要求的，但玛拉基所强调的更深层的原则是：冷漠会导致自私。当我们将眼目从神身上移开，这不仅会影响我们自己的生活方式，还会影响别人。因为当时的十一奉献主要是实物产出，由祭司负责分发给有需要的人。如果人心冷漠，自私就会滋长，结果是社会中那些边缘群体的需要得不到满足。这个例子只是八个互动中的一个，却揭示了一个更大的图景：无数个小小的选择，最终导致人与神的旨意和心意越来越疏远。

I remember when I was about 20, I had my first experience of backing a trailer at what we used to call, 'the dump' – what today is called a refuse transfer station. For the life of me I couldn't back the trailer straight and I remember someone getting very frustrated with me calling out, '*Is this your first time, mate?*' Well, it was, and it took me a lot of practice to learn that when you're backing a small trailer every little move of the steering wheel has a corresponding consequence on the trailer. I'm pretty good at backing trailers these days, but it took practice and perseverance and every now-and-then I still get it wrong and have to straighten up.

我记得大约二十岁的时候，第一次倒车拖挂去我们当时叫“垃圾场”的地方——今天人们叫它“垃圾转运站”。那时候，我完全不会把拖车倒直，总是歪来歪去。还记得有个人很不耐烦地冲我喊：“这是你第一次倒车吗，伙计？”——的确，那就是我第一次。后来我花了很长时间才学会：当你倒一辆小拖车时，方向盘哪怕是微小的调整，都会在拖车上带来明显的结果。如今我已经很会倒拖车了，但这需要大量练习和坚持，而且偶尔我还是会出错，不得不重新调整方向。

### **Every decision counts 每一个决定都很重要**

So, here's the point: every small decision matters. Just like backing a trailer, every little adjustment – every 'yes' or every 'no' takes us somewhere. For the people of Malachi's day, a thousand little decisions of apathy had steered them further from God. They didn't wake up one morning and decide, '*Let's drift away from Him.*' It happened decision-by-decision, choice-by-choice, excuse-by-

excuse, habit-by-habit. And before they knew it, they were asking God, 'How have we drifted?'

所以，关键在这里：每一个小小的决定都很重要。就像倒拖车一样，方向盘每一次轻微的调整——无论是“是”还是“否”——都会把我们带向某个方向。对于玛拉基时代的人来说，无数个冷漠的小决定，慢慢地把他们带离了神。他们并不是某一天早上醒来就决定：“我们今天要远离神吧。”不是的，而是一次次决定、一次次选择、一次次找借口、一次次形成习惯，逐渐偏离了神。等他们意识到的时候，竟然还要问神：“我们怎么会远离你呢？”

We can fall into the same trap. The small decisions and choices we make every day of every week – where we give our attention, how we spend our money, whether we pray, whether we forgive, whether we serve – these things add up. They either draw us closer to God, or they slowly steer us into apathy and self-sufficiency.

我们同样可能陷入这样的陷阱。我们每一天、每一周所作出的那些小决定——我们把注意力放在哪里，我们如何使用金钱，我们是否祷告，我们是否饶恕，我们是否服事——这些都会累积起来。它们要么让我们更亲近神，要么慢慢把我们推向冷漠和自我中心。

Malachi's challenge is not simply 'stop robbing God.' It's bigger: it's 'return to me.' God's call is always relational before it's behavioural. He doesn't just want our generosity, or our Sunday mornings, or our leftover energy, He wants our hearts. And when He has our hearts, everything else flows out from that.

玛拉基的挑战并不只是“不要再夺取神的东西”这么简单，而是更深的：“你们要归向我。”神的呼召永远是先关系，后行为。祂不要的只是我们的钱财、我们的主日上午，或者我们所剩余的精力；祂要的是我们的心。当祂得着我们的心，其余的一切都会自然流露出来。

### **Application 回到我们每个人**

So, let me leave you with this: What small decision will you make this week that will turn you toward God rather than away from Him? Not in theory, not in a vague way, but in real life – at 4pm on Thursday, when you're tired, stressed, and tempted to choose convenience over faithfulness. That's where the trajectory of your life is being set.

所以，我想留给你们这样一个问题：在这一周里，你会做出什么小小的决定，使你更亲近神，而不是远离祂？不是停留在理论上，不是含糊不清的，而是在真实的生活当中——比如周四下午四点，当你疲惫、焦虑、很想选择图省事而不是忠心跟随的时候。就是在这些时刻，你生命的方向被决定。

The prophets, this series, says to us that we're going to serve somebody. Every day, in all the little ways, we're deciding who that will be. So, like Joshua, can you say: 'As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord?' Not just in words, but in choices. Because in the end, the hope the prophets

remind us of is this: God is still calling us back, still inviting us to return. And when we do, He promises His presence, His restoration, and His blessing. That's the life worth choosing.

先知们的信息，这一整个系列都在提醒我们：你一定会去事奉某一个对象。每一天，在所有那些小小的选择里，我们都在决定到底要事奉谁。你能否像约书亚那样说：“至于我和我家，我们必定事奉耶和華”？不仅仅是口头上的宣告，而是要在实际的选择中活出来。因为最终，先知们给我们的盼望是这样的：神仍然在呼召我们，仍然在邀请我们回转。当我们回转的时候，祂应许要赐下祂的同在、祂的复兴和祂的祝福。这样的生命，才是真正值得去选择的。

Every Peanut Slab, every trailer manoeuvre, every Thursday 4pm, every choice is steering your life somewhere. So don't drift. Don't settle. Don't serve convenience. Serve the Lord. Because one day, you'll look back and realise: your small decisions were your big decision.

每一块“花生巧克力”、每一次倒拖车、每一个周四下午四点、每一个小小的抉择，都在把你的人生往某个方向带去。所以，不要任意漂流，不要随便将就，不要事奉图方便。要事奉耶和華。因为有一天你回头看的时候，你会发现：那些小小的决定，其实就是你生命中的大决定。

## Prayer 祷告

Lord, we admit that it's so easy to drift.

So easy to settle for convenience instead of faithfulness.

But today, we want to choose You.

Help us in the small moments — the Thursday at 4pm moments,

the decisions no one else sees, the places where our hearts are shaped.

Give us courage to serve You, wisdom to hear Your voice,

and joy in walking with You.

May our small decisions this week reflect the big decision of our lives — that we belong to You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

主啊，我们承认，要漂流离开你实在太容易了，

要选择图方便而不是忠心，实在太容易了。

但今天，我们愿意选择你。

求你帮助我们，在那些小小的时刻——

周四下午四点的时刻，

那些别人看不见的抉择，

那些真正塑造我们心灵的地方。

求你赐给我们勇气去事奉你，

赐给我们智慧听见你的声音，

赐给我们喜乐与你同行。

愿我们这一周里所做的每一个小小的决定，

都能反映出我们生命中那个最大的决定：

就是我们属于你。

奉主基督耶稣的名祷告，

阿们。



These questions are intended to help you think more about this message. We hope they might enable conversation, encouraging you to wrestle with how God might be challenging us to apply what we have heard/read.

**Reflecting on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025:** Last Sunday John Tucker asked us to consider the answer to the question, ‘What makes life meaningful?’ He suggested that serving people from a position of humility is where we become more like Jesus. How did you find meaning through service in this past week?

Questions from this week’s teaching:

1. If your daily choices are steering your life like a trailer, where would those small turns be taking you right now?
2. Where are you most tempted to choose convenience over faithfulness, and what does that reveal about your heart?
3. Malachi’s people asked God “*How have we drifted?*” If you asked Him that today, what do you think He’d say?
4. What’s one small, real-life decision you could make this week that would shift your trajectory toward God?

If you’d like to chat with someone about your spiritual journey or anything else going on in your life, please contact us at [care@windsorpark.org.nz](mailto:care@windsorpark.org.nz); **we’re better together and no perfect people are allowed.**



## 思考与讨论问题

这些问题是为了帮助你更深入地思考今天的消息。我们盼望它们能够激发谈话，鼓励你去思想：神正在如何挑战我们，把所听见的真理应用在生活中。

## 回顾 2025 年 7 月 17 日 主日信息：

上周 John Tucker 牧师邀请我们思考一个问题：“什么使人生有意义？”他提出，当我们以谦卑的心去服事别人时，我们就更像耶稣。过去一周，你在服事中是如何经历意义的？

## 本周讲道相关的问题：

1. 如果你每天的选择就像拖车的转向，带着你的人生移动，那么你现在的那些“小转弯”正在把你带往哪里？
2. 在什么地方你最容易选择图省事而不是忠心？这反映出你内心的什么？
3. 玛拉基时代的人问神：“我们在什么事上该归回呢？”（玛 3:7）如果今天你向神问同样的问题，你觉得祂会怎样回答？
4. 在这一周里，你可以做出哪一个具体的小决定，让你的人生方向更靠近神？

## 进一步联系与支持

如果你希望有人与你聊聊你的属灵旅程，或你生活中正在经历的事，请联系我们：

[care@windsorpark.org.nz](mailto:care@windsorpark.org.nz)

因为我们相信，我们一起更好，并且在这里没有完美的人被允许。



Below are some further resources that may take the message further and deeper and enable you to explore other viewpoints on the same theme. We also encourage you to engage with the preacher if there are further questions you have or if you'd like clarification on anything. Email [info@windsorpark.org.nz](mailto:info@windsorpark.org.nz) and we'll direct your query to the appropriate person.

1. The Bible Project has an excellent video that gives a comprehensive overview of **Malachi**. You can see it here: <https://bibleproject.com/videos/malachi/>
2. Creating a **Rule of Life** is one way to put habits in place that help us make little decisions to stay connected to God daily. Read this article for an overview of a Rule of Life, which includes links to other resources: <https://michellerayburn.com/creating-a-rule-of-life-could-this-framework-help-you-focus/>
3. The **YouVersion Bible App** is the world's leading app to not only read the Bible on, but to see a suite of other useful resources. Download the app and create your own account and then set Windsor Park Baptist Church as 'My Church'. Each week we recommend a short devotional plan (you'll get a notification about a new plan each week). This week we'll recommend **Malachi: Before the Silence**, which is a short devotional series that walks through key themes in Malachi; it contains easy to follow daily reflections with Scripture and prayer prompts.



## 其他资源推荐

以下是一些资源，帮助你更深入思考今天的信息，也可以让你从不同角度去探讨同一主题。如果你对讲道有更多问题，或需要进一步的澄清，请发邮件至 [info@windsorpark.org.nz](mailto:info@windsorpark.org.nz)，我们会将你的问题转交给合适的人来回应。

### 1. The Bible Project 圣经计划

这里有一支非常好的视频，带你全面了解《玛拉基书》：

<https://bibleproject.com/videos/malachi/>

### 2. 属灵生活准则 (Rule of Life)

建立“生活准则”是一个很好的方式，帮助我们信仰的习惯融入日常，透过无数小决定维持与神的连接。你可以先阅读这篇文章，其中包含资源链接：

<https://michellerayburn.com/creating-a-rule-of-life-could-this-framework-help-you-focus/>

### 3. YouVersion 圣经应用程式

这是全球最受欢迎的圣经应用，不仅可以读经，还有许多其他有益资源。你可以下载 App 并创建账户，然后把 **Windsor Park Baptist Church** 设为“我的教会”。

每周我们会推荐一个简短的灵修计划（你会收到通知）。本周推荐的是 **Malachi: Before the Silence (玛拉基：静默之前)**，一个简短的灵修系列，带你走过《玛拉基书》的关键主题，并提供简明的经文反思与祷告指引。