

NEW
FOR
AUGUST

Welcome

Return To Me

August 11-25 Sermon Series: Return To Me Have you ever doubted God's love? Do you tend to give God your first, or only what you have left? Have you ever had someone break a promise or commitment? Join us this month as we unpack the Book of Malachi.



Serving Opportunities Jesus calls all of his people to serve others and empowers us with different gifts to do so to truly live out our faith. We are in need of people to serve in TreeHouse Kidz, Student Ministries, Prayer Team, Hospitality, Meal Prep, and other outreach opportunities. To serve, fill out an orange "Get Involved" card at the Welcome Center or email massillon@rivertreechristian.com.



Ladies Movie Night / August 11 / 6PM For the women's monthly event, all ladies are encouraged to gather at RiverTree Massillon on to watch the movie "War Room". Refreshments provided. Email questions to Lindsay Bishop at linzcb34@gmail.com.



Corn Roast & Lunch / August 25 Join us immediately following 10AM service for food, community, and fun. Please bring a side to share. Last name letters A-M bring a side and letters N-Z bring a dessert.



Student Ministry Kickoff Celebration / August 28 / 6PM For Middle and High School (NRG & SENT) students in grades 5-12. This combined event at RiverTree Massillon will have tons of games, food, and fun to launch us into the new school year.



Regular Service Times / Begins September 1 We will return to two identical service times of **9 and 10:30AM**. Invite someone new to join us!



TreeHouse Kidz Volunteer Lunch / September 8 If you are a volunteer in TreeHouse Kidz, we want you to know we deeply appreciate you. Plan to attend to meet other volunteers and hear more about where THK is headed. Look for your invite soon! Questions? Email Sonjia Menches at menchess@rivertreechristian.com



RETURN TO ME

A Study in the Book of Malachi

August 11 / Do You Even Love Me?

READING / Malachi 1:1-5

SUMMARY / God's people are having a difficult time, wrestling with questions and doubting whether God really loves them. God responds by reminding them that he has always loved them, and chose them, and has kept his promise to them. Similarly, we often doubt God's love and faithfulness when our lives get hard, but Scripture reminds us that we have been chosen by God, and he proved his love for us by sending Jesus.

REFLECTION / Have you ever doubted God's love? Why? What reminded you or convinced you of the truth that God really does love you?

August 18 / Giving God Your Leftovers

READING / Malachi 1:6-14

SUMMARY / God's people have become apathetic in their worship. Rather than honor God as a Father and Master, and bringing their best, they bring God their leftovers. God makes clear, this is not an acceptable form of worship, or really worship at all. In the same way, we often tend to get lazy in our relationship with God. We tend to give our best to many other things, and yet when it comes to God, we offer very little, though he's done so much for us. As Christians, even when our worship and obedience fails, our faith is in Jesus, the only perfect one, who also sends his Spirit to show us true worship.

REFLECTION / Do you tend to give God your first, or only what you have left? What are some ways that you hold out on God? Do you need to shift your priorities?

August 25 / Promise Breakers

READING / Malachi 2:1-9

SUMMARY / God's leaders, who are supposed to set the example, have turned their backs on God and stopped listening. God had made a promise and a covenant with them, and God kept his end of the promise, but his people did not. God gave them the choice of blessing or curse, but they chose the curse when they turned their backs on God. In similar ways, we often make vain commitments to God, and yet fail and falter. Thankfully, because of God's grace, even when we break our commitment, we get a blessing, because Jesus took the curse on our behalf.

REFLECTION / Have you ever had someone break a promise or commitment? How did you feel? What are the areas that you need the Holy Spirit to help deepen your devotion and commitment to God?