



# Waiting For Covenant

Malachi 2:10-16

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## THE QUESTION - verse 10

1. In your own words, what is the question God's people are asking?
2. In what ways are people asking the same question today?
3. Have you ever asked that question yourself?
4. Why do you think God doesn't just "step in" and make us stop being so faithless?

## THE ANSWER - verses 15-16

1. What does God's answer help you to understand about the heart of God's people?
2. What does God's answer help you to understand about the heart of God?
3. In Genesis, when God establishes His covenant with Abraham (and Abraham's descendants), is it significant that God first reaches out to Abraham and that it is God Who establishes the Covenant with His people? (some background references: Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-20; 17:1-14)
4. As you read Mark 14:32-42, pay close attention to what Jesus was experiencing and feeling. Beyond the physical torture and humiliation that Jesus knew was coming, what was it that so deeply burdened Jesus?
5. How does Jesus' response help you to understand about His love for you?
6. What does it mean for you that...
  - a. On the cross Jesus was alone so that you might never be alone.
  - b. On the cross Jesus was forsaken so that you might be forgiven.
7. How does knowing (even in part) the depth of Jesus love for you help you do life?
8. In Philippians 2:5-8 how does Jesus demonstrate submission to the Father and loving sacrifice for you?
9. These days, what does having this "attitude" look like in your life?

## BONUS QUESTIONS

A "covenant" is an agreement, a mutual promise of commitment, made between people or with God.

1. Agree or disagree:
  - a. What makes our covenant relationships work is individual submission and sacrifice that follows the example of Jesus Christ.
  - b. True sacrifice and submission to another person is only possible with a personal understanding of God's love demonstrated in Jesus Christ.
2. How can Christian marriage be lived according to the example of Jesus?
3. How can our Church relationships be lived according to the example of Jesus?
4. What will you do differently this week as a result of this study?