PREK & K Flight Plan
November 22nd

Lesson	**Malachi the Prophet**
Bible Passage	Malachi
Story Point	Malachi said a messenger would get people ready for the Messiah
Key Passage	God...will Himself restore...you after you have suffered a little while. 1 Peter 5:10
Big Picture Q & A	**Who is in control of everything?** God is in control of everything





After many years living as prisoners in Babylon, God's people had returned to Judah. They had worked hard and overcome opposition to rebuild the temple and the walls around Jerusalem. Surely God would restore them … finally! But nothing happened. As they waited, they faced drought and economic uncertainty. God's people probably didn't feel like God had blessed them at all.

"It is useless to serve God," they said. "What have we gained by keeping his requirements?" (Mal. 3:14). Did God still care? It wasn't long until God's people fell back into the same patterns of sin that led to their exile in the first place: idolatry, covetousness, hypocrisy, arrogance, and abuse of the poor.

But God did still love His people. He had been working out His divine plan of redemption, and He never gave up on them. God sent a message to His people through the prophet Malachi.

Malachi was the last of the Old Testament prophets. He spoke to God's people approximately 100 years after the end of the Babylonian captivity. Malachi's message from God was a wake-up call.

God communicated through Malachi that the people's lack of blessing didn't mean that God didn't care. God exposed His people's sin and made clear that their actions merited a curse. God's people needed to repent and turn back to God. "But for you who fear my name," God said, "the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings" (Mal. 4:2).

Explain to preschoolers that 400 years of silence followed Malachi's prophecy; God did not communicate to His people. This period brings us to the New Testament, when the silence would be broken by the last prophet before Jesus, John the Baptist. His words about Jesus in John 1:29 offered hope to all who heard: "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

Vision for Grace Airways
We navigate the scriptures,
training up bold disciples,
on our ongoing journey to Jesus!

Gospel—Centered Preparation:

The heart of preparation is rooted in your understanding of the gospel and your personal application of the story.

After your study ask yourself:

- How do the verse and Big Picture Question connect to this story?
- What am I excited to teach from this passage?
- The main point this week is: _____
- Where is the gospel in this story?

November Focus: God's People Restored



Nov 1st: **The Temple was Rebuilt** *Ezra 4-6, Haggai*

Story point: God's people rebuilt the temple

Nov 8th: **The Walls Rebuilt** *Nehemiah 1-6*



Story Point: God used Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem's walls

Nov 15th: **God's People Repented/Thanksgiving** *Nehemiah 8-13*



Story Point: God's people promised to obey God

Nov 22nd: **Malachi the Prophet** *Malachi*



Story Point: Malachi said a messenger would get people ready for the Messiah

Co-Pilot—Included
Preparation:

On a Sunday morning, the Pilot is leading everyone in our ongoing journey to Jesus– that includes both flyers and Co -Pilots! The more consistency and continuity we have between Pilots, the better we can prepare our helpers to succeed and grow! With that consistency comes the mentorship aspect for our youth volunteers in particular, and utilizing our adult co -pilots as well: sharing activities, engaging them in the morning, and encouraging their involvement.

As you prepare for the lesson, ask yourself:

- **Does my planning allow for Co-Pilot participation throughout the morning?**
- **How did I prepare my Co-Pilot to help with classroom management?**
- **What specific activities will my Co-Pilot assist with today?**
- **In what ways can I encourage my Co-Pilot?**

Engagement

- Sit with child during the story
- Playing alongside flyers
- Reengage chatty/distracted kids
- Ask to volunteer an example during discussion
- Help play to Co-Pilot's strengths

Activities

- Attendance stickers
- Timeline
- Joining in the verse and BPQ&A
- Assigned to a specific flyer
- Helping find books in the Bible
- Leading crafts & songs

Encouragement

- Thank you for stepping in there!
- You did a great job with _____.
- You really helped me while I was _____.
- Thank you for being _____'s buddy today.
- Your help really made this morning go smoothly.
- _____ was the right thing to do. You handled it well!
- I'm so glad you are here today!

Morning Routine

Stay with this order.
Adjust pictures on schedule according to your plan.
Review schedule with the children at the start of the morning.



Take Off
VBS song
Verse/BPQ

5 Min



Journey
Prayer
Bible Story
God Attributes



10 Min



Flight Lab
Bible Story Activity

15 Min



Free Play
Inside or on playground

10 Min

At congregation last song–clean up/move inside



Pilot's Log
Prayer
Take Home Page
Settle and Review



5 Min

PICK UP:

First Service:
Around 9:45

Second Service:
Around 11:45

5 min Take Off

Celebrate & being here! Introduce the morning

Gather

As the children enter, have them gather at the TV to begin with worship/singing.

Have your co-pilot check attendance.

Song

Do a song or 2 of your choice as time allows to help children prepare for the lesson,

Key passage

Transition from singing into the Verse Song. Lead the kids with the hand motions in the video!

God...will Himself restore...you after you have suffered a little while.

1 Peter 5:10

Big picture question

Who is in control of everything?

God is in control of everything

Repeat the question 2-3 times for learning!

Transition to the Bible Story

Clap a simple rhythm for the children to copy, use a finger play, etc…
Set expectations for the children: "my turn to talk, your turn to listen, eyes on me, hands in your lap"
Choosing the same transition every week works super well with child and kindergarten ages.

Bible Connection Ideas

Bible FingerPlay:
1, 2 (hold up fingers) The Bible is true (hands like book), God loves me (cross arms, point to me) and God loves you (cross arms, point to class)

Bible Foundation Motions:
- The Bible is **True** *(thumbs up)*
- The Bible is How God **Speaks to Us** *(cup hands around mouth as if you were shouting)*
- The Bible is **Different** from other stories *(cross your arms and point in opposite directions)*
- The Bible points to **Jesus** *(ASL sign for Jesus)*

Fingerplay Ideas

Open Shut them:
Hold hands in front as you open and shut them while saying:
Open shut them, open shut them, give a little clap
Open shut them, open shut them, lay them in your lap.
Creep them creep them, slowly to your chin
Open wide your little mouth (pause), but do not let them in!

Active Preparing to sit and listen:
I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I jump up from the ground.
I stomp my feet, I clap my hands, I turn myself around.
I stomp my feet , I clap my hands, I sit myself right down
I stomp my feet (*while sitting)* , I clap my hands, I do not make a sound (*finger over lips, spoken in a whisper).*



10 Min Journey

Where we travel into God's word

Introduce the Bible Story

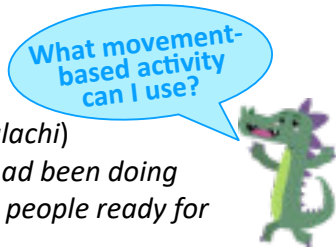
Use our Bible Finger play each week to transition to the Story.

• Today's Bible story is from the Book of Malachi. The Old Testament is made up of 39 books. Malachi is the last one. Malachi is short. It only has four chapters. **Point to the Bible story picture on their timeline.** The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Tell the Bible Story

Using the pictures, tell the Bible Story or watch the video *(This lesson is **NOT** in the It's All About Jesus Bible Storybook).* Tell the story using your own words keeping eye-contact with the children**.**

• God sent Malachi to talk to His people. He told the people what they were doing wrong. Malachi told them that God wanted His people to obey Him. He told them another messenger was coming. **Malachi said a messenger would get people ready for the Messiah.** That messenger was John the Baptist. John's job was to get people ready for Jesus.



Talk about the Bible Story

1. **Whom did God send to talk to His people?** (*Malachi*)
2. **What did Malachi tell the people?** (*what they had been doing wrong and that a messenger would come to get people ready for the Messiah*)
3. **What did God say would happen to people who honored Him?** (*They will be happy and jump and play like calves.*)
4. ***Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything.***

God's attributes- helping the children understand what God is like, shown to us in the Bible. In today's story we see that God is:

- PROMISE KEEPER

Have a student place the story picture on the 'timeline'

Age Appropriate Bible Story

Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you

Malachi the Prophet — *Malachi*

The Jewish people were home in the promised land. They had worked hard to rebuild the temple and fix the walls around the city. The people were ready for God to bless them. They waited, but nothing happened. Some of the people were sad. They wondered if God really loved them.

God did love His people! They had been doing wrong things, and God wanted His people to obey Him. So God sent the prophet Malachi (MAL uh kigh) to talk to His people. God gave Malachi a message, and then Malachi told the people what God said.

Malachi told the people what they had been doing wrong. The priests were supposed to make sacrifices to God. God deserved the very best sacrifices, but the priests gave animals that were stolen, hurt, or sick. The priests were also supposed to teach the people about God, but the priests taught things that were not true. God was not happy.

Then Malachi gave a warning. He said that a day was coming when God would judge people on earth. God said, "I am going to send My messenger, and he will get people ready for Me."

The messenger God was going to send would have a very big job. The messenger would say, "Another messenger is coming! Get ready!" The other messenger would be God's special Messenger, the Messiah God promised to send.

What else did God's people do wrong? Well, some of God's people were robbing God! When God gave people good gifts—like money and wealth—the people kept it all for themselves. They did not share. They forgot that everything belongs to God.

God said, "Give what you have! Just a little bit of it. See what happens. I will give you even more blessings—more good things than you can count!"

What else did God's people do wrong? Well, some of God's people were saying things about God that were not true. They said, "Serving God is no good. People who do not serve God have better lives than we have."

"A day is coming," God said, "when everyone who is wicked will be punished. They will see that it is good to serve God. People who honor Me will be happy, and they will jump and play like calves."

***Christ Connection**: Malachi was a messenger for God. He said another messenger was coming. That messenger was John the Baptist. John's job was to get people ready for the last Messenger, Jesus! Jesus is God's Son. He came to rescue people from sin.*

Picture Card Lesson

Use your own words—Trust the Holy Spirit to speak through you!

Malachi the Prophet — *Malachi*

Card 1: The Jewish people were home in the promised land. They had worked hard to rebuild the temple and fix the walls around the city. The people were ready for God to bless them. They waited, but nothing happened. Some of the people were sad. They wondered if God really loved them.

Card 2: God did love His people! They had been doing wrong things, and God wanted His people to obey Him. So God sent the prophet Malachi (MAL uh kigh) to talk to His people. God gave Malachi a message, and then Malachi told the people what God said.

Card 3: Then Malachi gave a warning. God said, "I am going to send My messenger, and he will get people ready for Me." The messenger God was going to send would have a very big job. The messenger Malachi promised was a man named John.

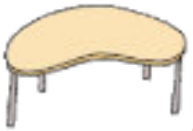
Card 4: Malachi said, John's job was to get people ready for the last Messenger, Jesus! The messenger would say, "Jesus is coming! Get ready!" Jesus is God's Son. He came to rescue people from sin. Jesus is the Messiah – the special One God promised to send to save us! The people who love God would be so happy that they would run and jump and play like baby cows!

Card 5: Malachi was a messenger for God. He told the people that God was going to keep His promised to send Jesus. The people would need to be patient. It would be a long time, but God is faithful. Jesus would come to rescue people from sin.

Christ Connection*: Malachi was a messenger for God. He said another messenger was coming. That messenger was John the Baptist. John's job was to get people ready for the last Messenger, Jesus! Jesus is God's Son. He came to rescue people from sin.*

Bible Storytelling Tips:

Respond with thumbs-up or thumbs-down: As you tell the story, encourage the children to hold their thumbs up when the Bible story is about good things and to turn their thumbs down when sad or bad things happen in the story.



15 min Flight lab

Learning the story in an interactive way

Choose from below or use your own idea-however the Lord leads. Then go into free-play.

Play a quiet game

Invite preschoolers to sit in a circle. Choose a preschooler to go first. Instruct her to walk around the circle and gently tap a quiet person on the shoulder. Then she will take that child's spot while he walks around the circle and gently taps another quiet person. Continue playing as time allows.

- **Malachi said a messenger would get people ready for the Messiah.** God was quiet for 400 years after Malachi gave God's message. Then God sent the messenger whom Malachi told about. That messenger was John the Baptist. John's job was to get people ready for the last Messenger, Jesus! Jesus is God's Son. He came to rescue people from sin.

Build a blessing wall

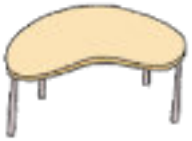
Help children name good gifts or blessings that God gives to us. Write each blessing on a sticky note. Encourage children to put each note on a different block then stack the blocks to make a wall. Print *Our Blessing Wall* on a sheet of construction paper and hang it over the block wall. Pray, thanking God for the blessings He give us. Consider leaving up the wall for children to show their parents at pickup.

- You named many good gifts, or blessings, that God has given us. The greatest blessing God has given us is His very own Son! **Malachi said a messenger would get people ready for the Messiah.** Jesus is the Messiah God promised to send! God sent Jesus to earth to rescue people from sin.

Pretend to give an offering

Hide play money around the room before the session. Give each child an envelope. Guide them to cut off the flap then fold the envelope in half to create a wallet. Invite children to decorate their wallets. Lead children to search for the play money and place it in their wallets. Show the basket or offering plate and encourage them to give part of their money. Comment that in the Bible story, the people gave animals as offerings to God, but today we give money as our offering.

- God had given His people good gifts to share—like money and wealth, but the people kept it all for themselves. ***Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything.*** God is in control of everything because everything belongs to God. God says if we give what we have, He will give us more good things than we can even count!



5 Min Pilot's Log

Where we prepare to go home

After flight lab, allow the children to play. **When congregation begins last song, move to the tables.**

Pause and settle

- Signal the end of free play, (use the time-timer to count down)
- Sing the clean-up song and guide children to clean their areas. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer if needed.
- Have children sit around the table.

ALWAYS CLOSE THE MORNING WITH PRAYER.
This is how we model incorporating prayer into their lives.

- After prayer, hand out the activity/coloring page. Direct children accordingly to complete the page. Remind children of what they can take away from today's lesson.

If a child finishes the activity/coloring page while waiting for mom and dad or is not interested, only offer options that can be completed at the table (playdough, puzzle, select a book to examine, practice the verse, etc) **Keep children at the table to maintain a calm and quiet environment for easy transition to mom and dad.**

When parents pick up their children, as appropriate share something their child enjoyed doing or did well during the morning.

Be sure that the Co-Pilots hand out the Activity sheet to each child or to parents. Have your Co-Pilot encourage parents to use this to talk to their kids about what they learned in class today.

PREK/K Prayer Extra Ideas:

Prayer Chain — in small groups, ask children for their prayer requests and have the Pilot or Co-Pilot write them on a few strips of paper. Connectstrips into a chain and display our growing conversation with the Lord. Feel free to revisit old prayer requests as well.

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Pointing to a Globe — Have a child or Co-Pilot spin the globe and place their finger on a country. Place a star sticker on the place(s) and pray over it as a group. We will provide a PreK/K age geography book to help guide discussion and prayer.Even if you don't know anything about the country, we can lift up the people, pray for Jesus, light to shine there, the Gospel to be active there, and churches to grow, etc.

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Looking out the Window — Grab a dry-erase marker, have the kids gather at the windows, and look outside. Ask the children to look for 3 things they can see out o the window to pray over. Using the dry-erase marker, write or draw these things on the window then pray over them.

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Preschool Carpet Bag Prayers— Choose an item(s) out of the carpet bag. Discuss the item and different people/things the item could represent (car—driving safely, mechanics, trips, first responders, etc) Encourage kids to "think outside the bag" and help them make connections. Pray over the people, places, and things that were discussed.

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Head Shoulders Knees and Toes—Pray through the song.

- Head (mind, imagination, thoughts, creativity)
- Shoulders (physical strength, things we might be dealing with)
- Knees (dancing, playing, jumping, etc.)
- Toes (walking and following after Jesus, standing strong in our faith)
- Eyes, ears, mouth & nose (seeing goodness, listening to Him, speaking truthful words, our senses, etc.)

You're ready for Sunday!

