

**Marriage is Sacred!**  
**Malachi 2:10-16**  
**LG Questions for 05/10/09**

**Getting Started**

Prior to Christ in your life what was your sense of urgency towards commitment? What difference did your new life in Christ make regarding your urgency with commitment? For those of you who were married before Christ, could you share what commitment looked like in your marriage before Christ? What difference did he make in your marriage?

**Getting Into The Bible**

**1) Read Malachi 2:10.** Who is referred to as the father in this section? See Joshua 24:1-3, Isaiah 63:16 & Malachi 1:6. What do you suppose the questions in verse ten mean? Can anyone call God their father? Read John 8:37-47. Who are God's children according to this section? Did you have a human father figure that was a good representation of who God is? How does your earthly fathers influence impact your view of your heavenly father?

**2) Read Malachi 2:11-12.** What is the point that God covers in this section? The men of Malachi's time were marrying outside the 12 tribes for financial gain. Why was marrying a non-believer an abomination in the sight of the Lord? What did intermarriage mean to the purity of the race? What did it mean to the purity of their spiritual lives? Read 2 Corinthians 6:14-18. How did Paul expand on this issue in the NT?

**3) Read Malachi 2:12-14.** What did it mean to cover the altar with weeping and crying? Why do you think the people did that? How did God respond? Didn't the people's response show their repentance? Read Hebrews 12:14-17. How does this relate to the people of Malachi's day? Talk through the balance of true repentance and the consequences of our sin as it relates to this issue.

**4) Read Malachi 2:15-16. Read Genesis 2:24.** Is this a promise of God's? Why is this so important to God? See Ephesians 5:25-33. How does this expand your insights? What does verse 16 say about God's view on divorce. Spend time praying for each others marriages.