

January Activities

(See online calendar for complete list.)

www.fbcopv.org/calendar

January 17th – Clothes & More giveaway of clothing, food, and other items. Location is Park next to 8616 Progress Blvd. Contact Sis. Betty Dixon.

January 19th – **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day & Parade.** All Ministries read email of instructions and check table in lobby to confirm attendance. Contact Bro. DeLaney Pittman or Sis. Gale Perry.

January 20th – Men's Fellowship Breakfast. Contact Min. David Hill or Dea. Ed Leonard.

January 24th & 31st – Caregiver Connection Series. 11am in the Choir Room. Contact Sis. Stacia Hammond.

January 31st – Triumph Movie Screening @ 6pm in the Sanctuary. Contact Bro. Delaney Pittman.

Looking Ahead:

February is **Black History Month.** Participants displaying arts & crafts in Gallery/Museum begin gathering items to bring. Sign up in lobby 3rd Sunday January for Ministry Fair and Black Business Expo in Feb. Contact Bro. DeLaney Pittman or Sis. Gale Perry.

February 28th – Black History **Fashion Show** @ 6pm. Models and volunteers needed. Visit table in the lobby. Contacts are Sis. Miriam Daniels, Sis. Lex James, Sis. Sierra & Bro. Antonio Byrd.

WOW Spring Tea will be in April off campus at larger venue. Interested hostesses stop by lobby table before or after worship service. Contact Sis. Dedra Keith.

First Baptist Church of Progress Village

Title: "Getting Back by Giving Up"

Scripture: Malachi 3:6-12

Todd E. Hammond, Senior Teaching Servant

January 18, 2026

I. My sin still _____ my relationship with God.

Malachi 1:2-3 (NASB) *"I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have You loved us?" "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob; but I have hated Esau, and I have made his mountains a desolation and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness."*

Question #1: God, how have you loved us? **Answer:** I loved you from the beginning because I chose you!

Malachi 1:6-7a (NASB) *" 'A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?' says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, 'How have we despised Your name?' "You are presenting defiled food upon My altar..."*

Question #2: God, how have we despised your name? **Answer:** You bring defiled sacrifices as atonement for your sins.

Malachi 1:7b-8 (NASB) *But you say, 'How have we defiled You?' In that you say, 'The table of the LORD is to be despised.' But when you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly?" says the LORD of hosts.*

Question #3: God, how have we defiled you with our sacrifices? **Answer:** Your worship is unfaithful and unworthy of the Almighty God.

Malachi 1:12-13 (NASB) *"But you are profaning it, in that you say, 'The table of the Lord is defiled, and as for its fruit, its food is to be despised.' "You also say, 'My, how tiresome it is!' And you disdainfully sniff at it," says the LORD of hosts, "and you bring what was taken by robbery and what is lame or sick; so you bring the offering! Should I receive that from your hand?" says the LORD.*

Question #4: God it is too hard to keep up giving you our best.

Answer: God says, "I am the Lord," and I won't accept sloppy seconds.

Malachi 2:13-14 (NASB) *"This is another thing you do: you cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with groaning, because He no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. 'Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.*

Question #5: Why is God not hearing our cries and accepting what we finally do bring? **Answer:** Because your family life is a lie and you seek to please everyone except God.

Malachi 2:17 (NASB) *You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, "How have we wearied Him?" In that you say, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights in them," or, "Where is the God of justice?"*

Question #6: God, how have we wearied you? Why are our enemies doing better than we are? **Answer:** Because you're allowing immorality to be acceptable behavior and promoting it as good.

Malachi 3:7 (NASB) *"From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you," says the LORD of hosts. "But you say, 'How shall we return?'"*

II. God _____ desires a relationship with _____ !

Question #7: God how do we find our way back to you?

Answer: Stop robbing me.

Malachi 3:8-9 (NASB) *"Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings." You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you!*

Question #8: How are we robbing you? **Answer:** In tithes and offerings.

God is NOT making a _____ for money, but giving us a reconciliation roadmap.

III. I can still turn my _____ back to God.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s 1964 speeches on civil rights...

A. _____ (External/Structural Separation) and _____ (Internal/Psychological Prejudice)

Malachi 3:6 (KJV) *For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.*

B. God doesn't have to change, which means we have to.

1) _____ represent the behavior, showing God's value to us.

2) **Offerings** represent sacrifices for atonement for our sins.

Matthew 6:20-21 (KJV) *But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

C. We invest in what we value, and we value what we invest in.

Malachi 3:10-11 (NASB) *"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows." Then I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of the ground; nor will your vine in the field cast its grapes," says the LORD of hosts.*

D. Return our heart's **priority** to God and reap the blessings of being reconciled.

Matthew 6:33 (KJV) *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

E. When we put God _____, he provides everything else we could want and need.

PRAYER—God, thank you for still desiring a close and personal relationship with me in spite of my shortcomings. Thank you for a making a way to reconcile us back together through Jesus sacrifice and your continued love for me. Amen.