****C3 Questions

*C3 exists to glorify God and edify the body by knowing and delighting in the Father through the joy and love of the Spirit and unity in the Son.*

Red Text = Tips and guides to help use the questions

Blue Text = Sample Answers

Green Text = Additional questions to ask

Got Milk?

If someone were to ask you to point to the good fruit of treasuring God in your life, what things would you point to? (Hint: think of last week's message or Galatians 5:22-23)

Which rotten fruit that was mentioned on Sunday do you see most often in your life?

Where’s the Beef?

One of the good fruits of righteousness in Mal 3:16-18 is a fear of the Lord. What is the fear of the Lord and how is it related to treasuring God?

* The acronym for FEAR
  + F - Focus
  + E - Evaluate
  + A - Adore
  + R - Revere
* The fear of the Lord is the holy affection of awestruck adoration. It is a Trembling Joy and a Reverential Treasuring of God. In a sense, to fear God, to adore Him with awe, is to treasure Him.
* Sermon Illustration: Arkenstone
  + Do you remember in the Hobbit when Thorin Oakenshield finally got his hands on the Arkenstone? The Arkenstone was a Living Gem - the most valuable jewel in Middle Earth. It was called "the King's Stone." Thorin is searching for this treasure throughout the whole story and when he finally gets it. Do you remember his response?
  + Total awestruck wonder! He mouth drops at the *living beauty* of the stone. He trembles in amazement. He is both thrilled and unspeakably happy when he finally holds it. He is so awed he becomes *jealous* for for the Arkenstone! He adores it so much becomes obsessed with it.
  + That is a picture of fear and treasuring. Thorin had *awestruck adoratio*n in the presence of Living Gem - the King's Stone. We should should have awestruck adoration in the presence of the Living God - The King's Splendor! Awe and adoration mingled together. *When the gem of God's name is revealed we should become obsessed with it and treasure it with fear!*

Another fruit of righteousness is a priority to be in God-centered community. In the context of Malachi, why is it significant that these people were in fellowship with other God-fearers?

* Remember the situation in Malachi. Judah is corrupt. The nation at large is being indicted by God through Malachi. Most of the nation did not treasure God. In fact, they "despised His name." (considered it worthless). Yet these God-fearers sought out God-centered community. They were in fellowship with others who shared the same deepest joy. But it would have taken intentionality and effort to seek out other people who loved God in the midst of a wicked nation.

Why do you think loving Godly community is result of loving God?

* You will gravitate to those who ultimately value what you ultimately value. That's how CS Lewis defined friendship - the unity of those who shared a common joy. So community of people who treasure God is the natural result of sharing the same joy and Spirit.

Another fruit of treasuring God in Mal 3 is God-exalting speech. Read Matt 12:24-37 and James 3:1-12. Why are our words indications of what we treasure?

* Jesus explains this so well in Matt 7:
  + **Matthew 7:16–20** **(NET) —** **16** You will recognize them by their fruit. Grapes are not gathered from thorns or figs from thistles, are they?**17** In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. **18** A good tree is not able to bear bad fruit, nor a bad tree to bear good fruit. **19** Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **20** So then, you will recognize them by their fruit.

What do your words reflect about what you value most?

Are You Satisfied?

What specific personal attribute of Christ do you most enjoy?