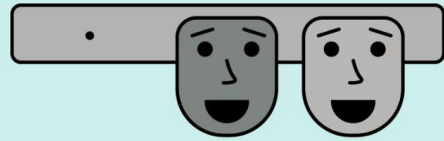


# Impostor

## DISCUSSION GUIDE



Northview Community Church



## DISCUSSION GUIDE

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH



Content



Care



Connection



Commission

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK:

**Jon** serving in a sensitive region.

Pray for John, their family and the ministry he serves as John lost his wife to covid.

Pray for the community John serves in. Many people are sick and the lockdowns have made it very difficult for people to support themselves.

### MINISTRY OF THE WEEK:

#### NHSY

Pray for Pastor Luke Friesen and Ministry Assistant Jessica, and their many leaders that make High School Youth ministry happen!

Pray that as students prepare to finish another year and even leave High School this June, that they would continue on in the faith and stay committed to Jesus and His church.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ***This is the last Discussion Guide until September!*** We will be taking a break for the summer and will start back up again mid-September!
- **Hey, Neighbour** is an initiative in which we distribute empty bags to our neighbours, so that those bags can be filled with food for our local food bank! Learn more about how you can be a part of this at <https://northview.org/heyneighbour/>
- **Lead Pastor Search update.** Our Elder's have written an update on the Lead Pastor Search. You can find that at <https://northview.org/leadpastor/>
- **Summer Day Camps** are full for in-person and have multiple ways that you can do online day camp or at-home day camp. Find out more at [northview.org/daycampregistration/](https://northview.org/daycampregistration/)

## LOOK

### Read Mal. 3:13-4:3

1. What stands out to you from the passage?
2. What do you remember from the sermon?
3. What did you learn from this passage?
4. What ideas or words are repeated?

#### Observations:

- *God has some sharp critiques for His people: they speak harshly against God (v.13), they say it is vain to serve Him (v.14), and claim evildoers are blessed (v.15).*
- *Most significantly this rabble that speaks out against God claims there is no value in serving God (v.14) nor in repenting of sin (v.15).*
- *There is a significant contrast in this passage between two kinds of people within Judah: those who fear God (v.16) and those who speak against Him (v.13).*
- *God will hold people accountable for which side they choose (v.18): those who fear God will be spared wrath (v.17) and will experience joy and peace (4:2); those who reject God will burn up like stubble (4:1).*
- *Fear of the Lord is a good thing (v.16) - it is commended here by the fact that God calls those who fear Him, His "treasured possession" (v.17).*
- *The judgment that Malachi speaks about will be final, there will be neither root nor branch left of the wicked (4:1).*

## LEARN

### Read Mat. 6:1-5, 16-18 to learn more about Jesus' teachings regarding religious service.

1. What attitude is Jesus condemning in this passage?  
*The need to be seen by others while doing good deeds (v.1, 2, 5, 16).*
2. What was Jesus' motive in correcting the religious hypocrites?  
*They sought the reward of the praise of man (v.2), when the true reward of serving God is receiving God's praise and good favor (v.4).*
3. Why does Jesus condemn looking gloomy while fasting?  
*The religious hypocrites' appearance of suffering*

*was meant to garner admiration from others (v.16), when it should have been a time for genuine contrition regarding the struggle against sin.*

### Read Ecc. 12:13-14 to learn more about the fear of God.

4. What is the purpose of human existence?  
*We are made to obey God (v.13) - the language of "fear God" is used - so this obedience is meant to include both our behavior and a sense of awe of the Creator God.*
5. What is God doing in our world according to this passage?  
*He gives us commandments to keep (v.13) and will hold all people accountable for their thoughts and actions (v.14).*
6. How can this impending judgment be avoided?  
*By trusting in Jesus (see John 3:16-17)!!*

## LIVE

**In Malachi 3 we see the distinction between those who think serving sucks, worship is worthless, and the wicked win, vs. those who fear God. The attitude of disdain towards God's service can quickly sneak into our lives if we lower our guard.**

1. Where have you seen evildoers prosper?
2. Where have you seen people question the profit of serving God?
3. How have you been challenged in serving God lately?
4. What sins have you struggled to repent of recently?

**We also learn in this passage (as well as in Ecc. 12) that the Fear of God is a good thing.**

5. How can you grow in the fear of God?
6. How can your family grow in the fear of God?
7. How can your CG grow in the fear of God?