

# *Who Really Rules—Are You Ready for a King in Your Life?*

When God Shouts—Pt. 4 Ray Befus February 3, 2008

Malachi 3:6-18, TNIV p. 655

## **Discussion Questions for Home Group Leaders**

1. Invite group members to read aloud the four Scripture texts used in this four-part teaching series. Micah 6:1-8; Amos 5:21-24; Zechariah 7:1-10; Malachi 3:6-18. What texts have stirred you the most over the past month, and why?
2. Be honest. When our pastor's launched this month-long study on the Minor Prophets, was your personal thinking closer to Paul Simon's philosophy or Micah's invitation to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God? [Paul Simon: *"The only thing that God requires from us is to enjoy life—and love. It doesn't matter if you accomplish anything. You don't have to do anything but appreciate that you're alive. And love, that's the whole point".*]
3. Did anyone taken a personal step this past week to show mercy—face to face—to a real person in real need?
4. The focus of this week's teaching was on walking with God in humility while we wait for the Bible's promises to come true, while we wait for our prayers to be answered. The fact that our God is a great king—wise and good even when he asks us wait—calls us to respond with humility, even when we feel like complaining or quitting. Are you in a painful waiting period right now? Tell us about it. Did you hear God speaking to you through last Sunday's teaching?
5. When you think of gathering on a Sunday morning to worship, give money, and serve God at little ol' Vineyard North . . . do you tend to think of the routine as 'just showing up for church' or, do you drive up to the building reminding yourself that you're entering the presence of a great king to show him the respect he deserves for protecting you and providing for you even during times of waiting?
6. On the way out of our Sunday service this week, our hosts passed out an article on tithing—the training wheels of generous giving. God uses tithing to measure the genuineness of our humility and respect. Our pastors believe this is one of the best Bible studies on tithing we can find anywhere. Did anyone read it? What parts of the article stood out to you? Did anything surprise you? Did you find any part of the article convincing?