

CHURCH LIFE

Kids Time Program - runs during morning service through school terms. Junior Kidz Time is in the Ministry Centre. Primary children are in the top hall.

Teens Bible Study during AM service in the hall.

Toilets are located through the breezeway and in the main hall.

Baby's change facility is located in the disabled toilet.

Hearing Loop operates in church—for access switch your aid to the "T" function.

Sermon Podcasts: are available on our website

Prayer Chain: Contact Lil Buchanan -3203 1188

Bulletin Items: Contact the church office by Tuesday afternoon.

Online Tithes & Offering:

Name: Deception Bay Baptist

ChurchBank: Bank of Queensland

BSB: 124 001 A/C 22 153 809

CONTACT US

Find us at: www.dbaybap.com Church

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Senior Pastor: Theo Salahor

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4 February 2018

Our 2018 weekly
program TBA.

Watch this space!

Introducing Malachi

It's hard to wait—especially when that wait is open-ended. At 1st we're edgy & restless, glancing at a watch, adjusting hair & clothing, looking past the door. Then irritation builds. We're annoyed at the delay. We snap or complain to people nearby. Finally, we stop waiting. We move on with our schedules but with less precision & enthusiasm. We give up. We believe that what we were waiting for will never happen.

The people of Malachi's era were in a period of waiting. Tragic & wonderful events had happened in the past. Their ancestors had heard the prophets warn of godlessness over & over—with no lasting reform. They had seen their kings subjected, then murdered, their beautiful 300-year old temple destroyed, their farms pillaged & burned, their friends hustled away as prisoners. They had spent 70 years living in Babylon under foreign rule.

But all that ended. Through the generosity of a Persian king (& God's own kindness), the Hebrew people returned to their homeland. With the help of Ezra & Nehemiah they rebuilt their homes, city walls & temple. They cleared their farmland & slowly resumed life as a worshipping people. Except for 1 thing. Where was God? They made the usual temple sacrifices, but saw no evidence of his presence. What did they expect? Freedom, from poverty? Miracles? Shouting prophets? International respect? God himself? We cannot know. But as the wait grew long, the people grew lax. They married pagans. They took shortcuts in worship & sacrifices. They exploited the weak & poor among them. They prayed—and couldn't understand why God ignored their prayers.

Then God sent Malachi with a message. God would visit his people, Malachi explained. But they must prepare for his coming. & with these final words of the OT, God showed his people how to wait. When he spoke again, it would be with the startling cry of the infant Jesus.

It's great to be back with you all, after a couple of weeks away. We're starting a new series on the Book of Malachi as of this morning. I'd love us as a church to study this incredible book. I want to challenge you all, to read this book once a week until the series is over; I'm also going to write a bible study & have it printed at the front of the bulletin.

Blessings, Theo

