

Lesson 2

Sacrifices to the Lord

Theme: Sacrifice—God helping people to be holy



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: For younger students: *Proper Sacrifices, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 6
For older students: *What Does the Bible Say About Sacrifice? Be Holy! Book 2*, page 6

Bible Facts: Take Time for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Turn sentence strips around in pocket chart so the students can't see the Memory Verse. Tell the students you will read the Memory Verse and leave blanks, and while you do so they are to think about what goes in the blanks. Make this activity age appropriate by leaving out more words for older students and fewer for younger students. Reread the Memory Verse, leaving pauses for the same words and phrases, and have the students work together to fill in the blanks as you read.

Prayer

Lesson of the Day

Ideas for Telling the Story

1. For non-reading students, read Leviticus 1:2-5. Using the classroom Bibles, have the reading students find and mark Leviticus 1:2-5.
2. Ask the students to bring their Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today's events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by asking a student to show Israel's location on a map.
5. Talk about the idea of making a sacrifice. Before class, place a rubber band on one arm and a nice bracelet on the other arm. As you begin the segment to define making a sacrifice, notice out loud what you have on each arm and the relative value of each item. To illustrate making a sacrifice, take the rubber band off and give it to a student, and then take the bracelet off and give it to another student. Sacrifice is the act of giving to someone something important that belongs to you. With which item did you make a sacrifice? Which student was honored by the most valuable gift?

6. Talk about the principles of making sacrifices, such as the following:
 - They first belong to the person giving them.
 - They are to be the best.
 - They are to be given cheerfully and with love.
 - They are to be offered to God just as God said.
7. Introduce Leviticus 1:1-5. For younger children, read from the Bible and briefly talk about the meaning. For older students, have one student read verse 1, another student verse 2, and so on. Briefly talk about the meaning, especially how “sacrifice” and “offering” mean the same.
8. From the It’s Bible Time Bag, take out in turn large cards on which you have printed the kinds of sacrifices you plan to discuss—burnt offering, peace offering, sin offering, or guilt offering. For your own use, write on the back of each card the main ideas about each sacrifice, such as the following:



- Burnt offering—the whole animal burned to honor God
- Peace offering—to help people be friends of God and one another
- Sin offering—to help people have forgiveness of sins
- Guilt offering—to help people come together with God after sin and forgiveness

9. Also from the It’s Bible Time Bag, take out, as needed, graphics of the kinds of sacrifices that Israel offered—cow, goat, sheep, and grain.
10. After talking about how sacrifices helped people be holy, illustrate and reinforce the principles with a story about an Israelite sinning and offering a sacrifice. Be sure students know this is not a story from the Bible, but something you made up, using the ways they lived under the old law. An example is the following:

Long ago, Jehiah was a Jewish teenager. He had learned the law of God since he was a child. His parents were careful to observe each Sabbath day and the feasts God gave to Israel. Jehiah loved the Lord and tried to obey His law. But one day, Jehiah said some mean words to one of his friends. He knew this was wrong, and later he was sorry about it. What could Jehiah do? All his life he had seen his father and other men take sacrifices to the priest at the tabernacle. Now, Jehiah knew the time had come for him to offer a sacrifice himself. He needed to make a sin-offering. He read from Leviticus 5:1-6 to learn what he should do. As a class, discuss what Jehiah should do to please God.

**Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning**

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11. See page 64 for reinforcement questions.

*Lesson 2***Sacrifices to the Lord**

Theme: Sacrifice—God helping people to be holy

Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: For younger students: *My Sacrifices to the Lord, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 4
For older students: *My Sacrifices to the Lord, Be Holy! Book 2*, page 4

Bible Facts: Take Time for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: The teacher reads the Memory Verse from Bible, and, as the teacher pauses, point to a student to fill in the missing word or phrase. If the student cannot fill in the blank, ask other students to help. Repeat until all students have had an opportunity to fill in some blanks.

Prayer**Starter**

A teacher told the story of the ant and the grasshopper: "The ant works hard all summer and stores up plenty of food. But the grasshopper plays all summer and does no work. Then winter comes. The grasshopper begins to starve because he has no food. So he begins to beg, 'Please Mr. Ant, you have much food. Please let me eat, too.'"

The teacher then assigned her students the job of writing the ending to the story. Some students said the ant shared his food through the winter, and both the ant and the grasshopper lived. A few students wrote, "No, Mr. Grasshopper. You should have worked in the summer. Now, I have just enough food for myself." So the ant lived and the grasshopper died. One student named Mark wrote an unusual ending that went this way: "So the ant gave all of his food to the grasshopper; the grasshopper lived through the winter. But the ant died."

Mark wrote about sacrifice. The ant "gave up" his food so the grasshopper could live. God told the people of Israel to make sacrifices. They were to give up animals and grain to God. The sacrifices are also called "offerings," because they were given or offered to God to thank and honor Him.

Briefly Review the Lesson

Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story

1. *Objective: Illustrate honoring God by giving Him our best*

For younger students, have an old toy car and a new one or an old doll and a new one. Give one broken or dirty toy to one student and the new pretty one to another. Ask the students which one they want when they receive a gift. Discuss how it would make them feel to receive a broken or dirty gift from their grandparents or friends. Discuss how receiving a nice and pretty gift makes them feel. Make the application to our honoring God.

2. *Objective: Illustrate the importance of giving our best to God*

Cut 8.5" X 11" paper into quarters. Have some pretty paper and some dirty and crumpled pieces. Give all students an equal amount of paper pieces of both kinds. Play "God Says," using the rules of "Simon Says." "God says ... stand on one foot, put your right hand in the air, etc." If God doesn't say it, the students shouldn't do it. When students fail to obey the rules, they must sacrifice a piece of the pretty paper to the teacher. Discuss how we would rather "offer" the crumpled paper, but we must give the best. When a student has no pretty paper to offer, he or she must drop out of the game at the next incorrect move. Discuss how sacrifices help us to be right with God. With Jesus as our sacrifice, we are never in a position in which we cannot be right with God if we want to be.

3. *Objective: Reinforce and apply the principles of making sacrifices*

Reproduce on a poster the principles of making sacrifices from the Sunday morning lesson plan, activity 6, page 16. Have the students say these in unison. Talk about their opposites, as follows:

- giving what belongs to someone else
- giving what is old or broken
- giving because I have to
- giving the way I want to

Talk with the students about how these actions do or do not honor God.

4. *Objective: Help students understand sacrifices that we make to God today*

For younger students, have them complete a worksheet entitled *Our Gifts to God*, found in *Be Holy! Book 1*, page 5. For older students, have them complete an acrostic entitled *Sacrifice Acrostic*, found in *Be Holy! book 2*, page 5.

5. See page 63 for reinforcement questions.

Things to Get or Do for Wednesday Night

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