

Study Guide  
Sacrifice – The Forgotten Spiritual Discipline (05/26/24)  
Pastor Eddie Turner

**Key Verse for This Series:**

*And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.*

Romans 12:1 (NLT)

**Read Matthew 25:14-30.**

As believers in Christ, our goal in life is not to obtain more so that we can have fun; our goal is to walk in obedience so that we hear, “well done”.

**John 10:17-18 (NLT)**

*“The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded.”*

Jesus gave us the example of sacrifice by his death on the cross.

**Read Matthew 26:47-54.**

**Was Jesus forced to die on the cross, or did He voluntarily give His life (verse 53)?**

**Why did Jesus willingly surrender His life in the Garden of Gethsemane (verse 54)?**

**How does this truth impact your faith in Jesus?**

Sacrifice means the surrendering of something valued for the sake of something that has a higher value.

THREE THINGS ACCOMPLISHED BY JESUS SACRIFICING HIS LIFE ON THE CROSS:

1. Jesus became a sacrifice for us to reveal the love of God.
2. Jesus became a sacrifice for us to reveal God’s grace and mercy.
3. Jesus became a sacrifice for us to pay the price due for our sin.

1. JESUS BECAME A SACRIFICE FOR US TO REVEAL TO US THE LOVE OF GOD.
  - a. **Read John 3:16.**
  - b. **Have you ever doubted God's love for you?**
  - c. **How can you know for certain that God loves you?**
  
2. JESUS BECAME A SACRIFICE FOR US TO REVEAL GOD'S GRACE AND MERCY.
  - a. **Read Romans 5:6-8.**
  - b. **Why does Jesus' sacrifice reveal God's grace and mercy?**
  
3. JESUS BECAME A SACRIFICE FOR US TO PAY THE PRICE DUE FOR OUR SIN.
  - a. **Read Mark 10:45 and 1 Peter 1:18-19.**
  - b. **Why was Jesus the only worthy sacrifice to pay for our sin?**

Matt. 13:44-46 (NLT)

*"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field. Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!"*

The Forgotten Spiritual Discipline:

Sacrifice is a personal decision we make, not grudgingly or angrily, but willingly, for the sake of something which has a higher value.

**Read Matthew 16:24-26.**

**How does sacrifice factor into a lifestyle of discipleship to Christ?**

Mark 8:34 (NIV)

*Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."*

1. Our sinful flesh wants to preserve itself, Jesus tells us, "Deny yourself."
2. Our sinful flesh wants to promote itself, Jesus tells us, "Humble yourself."
3. Our sinful flesh wants to save itself, Jesus tells us, "Sacrifice yourself."

**Romans 12:1 (NLT)**

*And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.*