

Week Eight Family Discussion Questions (July 25-31)

1. This week, we consider the Old Testament sacrificial system, which not only reminded Israelites that they were sinners, but also showed their inability to make atonement or earn God's forgiveness by good works.

Go back and read Genesis 3:21. What does this verse (along with longer sections of the Bible, like Leviticus) teach us about the problem of sin and God's plan for redemption?

Adults, don't overthink this one. We can see from the Genesis passage that Adam and Eve were completely incapable of "saving themselves" and restoring their broken relationship with God. Therefore, animals likely died to provide coverings (skins) for Adam and Eve. Even in Genesis, the "wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). God takes sin very seriously, and yet He graciously spares no expense, not even His own Son, to make forgiveness possible (Romans 8:32).

2. The book of Leviticus provides (very) specific instructions for making sacrifices. Based on passages like Leviticus 1:3-5, how does the sacrificial system point to Jesus?

3. Read Hebrews 10, particularly verses 12-14. Why don't we need to make sacrifices for sin anymore?
Scripture is clear: No amount of good works can earn salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-6). In light of God's free gift of salvation, secured by Christ alone, believers are called to live for God's glory, and not according to their own ways.
Interestingly, in Romans 12:1, Paul tells followers of Jesus to present their bodies as "living sacrifices" to God. What are some ways that you can "sacrifice" your own selfish desires or wants in order to please God and grow closer in your relationship with Him?
This Week's Key Verse: Hebrews 10:4

For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.