

Group Study Guide

July 8-9, 2023

"Offer This"

Kurt Bjorklund

MESSAGE NOTES:

Hebrews 13:15-16

¹⁵ "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. ¹⁶ And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

1. **Offer Worship to God** - "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name." (Hebrews 13:15)

"If you love me, keep my commands." (John 14:15)

¹ "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:1-2)

¹¹ "The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp. ¹² And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood. ¹³ Let us, then, go to him outside the camp, bearing the disgrace he bore. ¹⁴ For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come." (Hebrews 13:11-14)

2. **Offer Ministry to People** - "And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." (Hebrews 13:16)

"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14)

"In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor." (Acts 9:36)

STUDY GUIDE:

STEP ONE: Read Hebrews 13:15-16 and pray to open your time together in God's word.

STEP TWO: (Optional) Icebreaker: When you think about all the summer seasons you've experienced, what's your favorite summer memory?

STEP THREE: Discuss Questions

1. What stood out to you the most in this weekend's teaching? What was challenging, encouraging, or confusing to you?
2. As a group, discuss what you know about the book of Hebrews (Setting, Author, Audience, Themes, Topics). How does that help you understand these verses?
3. In verse 15 the author tells his audience to "continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise." What is a sacrifice of praise? In what ways does praising God require sacrifice in our culture today?
4. Why does the author precede this command to offer a sacrifice of praise with the words, "through Jesus"? What does this tell us about Jesus' role in our relationship with God?
5. In verse 16 the author tells his audience to "do good and to share with others." In your experience, do you see others doing good and sharing resources as a rare or common occurrence? Why do you think "God is pleased" with these kinds of sacrifices?
6. What are some practical ways we can follow this command this week? How specifically is God calling you to sacrifice by doing good and sharing with others?
7. It can be tempting to hoard what we have for ourselves. How does the gospel message motivate us to do good and share with others?

STEP FOUR: Close in Prayer