

**THE PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS**

**SACRIFICE BRINGS LIFE**

Everyday examples...

In the beginning...*Genesis 2:5-7, 18-23, Genesis 2:24, Genesis 3:1-7, 3:21*

Consider the 10 Commandments in *Exodus 20*

The rest of the Old Testament

**JESUS REITERATES THIS PRINCIPLE**

*Matthew 16:21-26*

Rebuking Jesus and getting rebuked right back

The reality of being a disciple of Jesus

**SACRIFICE ULTIMATELY COMMUNICATES LOVE**

*John 3:16*

You're willing to pay for what you value.

**REMEMBERING THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS THROUGH COMMUNION**

### GETTING STARTED

Share one high and one low from the past week.

### SUNDAY RECAP

Often, it is easy to forget that costliness is something associated with greatness. We see people who are “great” or done great things and think to ourselves, “They must have born this way.” Yet, greatness can be costly, requiring us to sacrifice our needs, wants, and desires for something better. While sacrifice is costly, it brings forth fruit and life in our lives.

### STUDY & SHARE

1. Do you attribute greatness with being costly? Why or why not?
2. Read Galatians 2:20, what does it mean that we are crucified with Christ? How does this translate to the way in which we live our lives?
3. Read and study Genesis 2:5-7, 15. Adam worked in the garden when God created him, in what way was this a sacrifice?
  - a) Work is one of the most time-consuming things that we do in our daily lives. How does work relate to being not only worship but also being costly?
  - b) How can we give sacrificially in one area of our lives?
4. Read and reflect on Genesis 2:18-23. Sacrifice fosters not only life but also love.
  - a) What does Jesus death in our place (sacrifice) tell us about God’s love for us?
  - b) In what way can we sacrificially give to help cultivate love with a loved one, family member, or friend?

1. Read and study Genesis 3:21. One of the first instances of God’s service to us is when God makes clothing for Adam and Eve.
  - a) God made the first sacrifice when he made clothing for Adam and Eve; the last sacrifice was God sending His son to die for our sins. Think of other examples in the bible where God sacrifices something for our sake.
  - b) What does this say about the great love God has for all of us?
  - c) What is an area in your life where sacrifice would be beneficial to help us grow spiritually, emotionally, or relationally? Is God calling you to sacrifice in this area? And if so, what?

### SHINE

God has so clearly shown his love for us through the cost of letting his son Jesus come and die on the cross for our sins, so that we can be in right relationship with God. How can you include your group in the process of sacrificially loving the people around you to show them the love of God?

### SUPPORT // PRAYER

Pray for each other that we would find the areas in our life, which God is calling us to sacrifice in so that we may see growth.

*\*These **Sermon Based Life Group Materials** are provided by Rise City Church for the purpose of deeper study of God’s Word and are best used in a small group setting. If you would like more information about Life Groups at Rise, please go the Life Groups page on our website or to the Rise City app.*