

March 22, 2020 PreK

Bible Passage: Rules for Sacrifice/Leviticus

Story Point: God made ways to forgive His people.

Key Passage/Memory Verse: “The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation” Exodus 15:2a ESV

Big Picture Question: What is worship? Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.

Christ Connection: The Book of Leviticus is about the sacrifices God told His people to offer for sin. God wanted to show the Israelites that He was going to forgive people. God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the perfect sacrifice. Jesus forgives our sin once and for all.

*** BIBLE STUDY TIPS FOR PARENTS:**

The tabernacle was complete. God now had a place where His glory could dwell without causing the Israelites to fear death. God had given His people laws from the mountain, and He gave them more rules for living and worshipping Him in the tabernacle. These rules are recorded in the Book of Leviticus. The reasoning behind Leviticus can be found in Leviticus 19:2: “Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.”

In Leviticus 17:11, God set apart the blood of a creature as the means for making atonement. This answers the question, “Why did Jesus have to die?” God’s requirement for the forgiveness of sins was the shedding of blood: “According to the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness” (Heb. 9:22).

It is important to note a New Testament revelation about the sin offering. Hebrews 10:4 says, “It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.” Then why did God require people to make sacrifices? The institution of a sacrifice was to point to something greater—the ultimate sacrifice God would make by sending His own Son, Jesus Christ, to pay for the sins of the world once and for all. (See Eph. 1:7; Rom 5:9.)

The Book of Leviticus contains many rules for the Israelite people, but we do not obey all the rules in Leviticus today because we trust Jesus, who obeyed the law perfectly for us.

Few—if any!—of the preschoolers will be familiar with the Book of Leviticus. Use this session as an opportunity to emphasize God’s holiness and His requirement of a blood sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins. Lead them to treasure Jesus as the perfect and final sacrifice “who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29).

*** BIBLE STORY:**

Turn to Leviticus in your Bible

Say • Moses wrote down God’s words, which became part of our Bible. Today’s Bible story comes from the Book of Leviticus. Let’s listen to God’s true Word from the Bible!

Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips, or both! You can use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

Rules for Sacrifice

Leviticus

When Moses met with God on the mountain, God gave him many rules and laws. These rules showed the people what it looks like to be holy. **God is holy and He wanted to be with His people, but God's people could not obey God's laws perfectly. So God met with Moses in the tabernacle—the tent of worship—and He told Moses what to do when the people sinned.**

First, **God gave rules about offerings. Offerings are gifts people give to God**, such as money or jewelry. Sometimes offerings were animals. People also gave grain and bread to God as gifts. The offerings had special purposes. When people wanted to praise God, they gave burnt offerings. **When they wanted to say they were sorry for sin, they gave a sin offering.**

God also gave rules about the priests. Priests were leaders who helped people worship God by making sacrifices. The priests also took care of the tabernacle, and they taught the people God's rules for living right lives. Moses' brother, Aaron, and Aaron's descendants were the priests.

God told Moses about a special day that would happen once a year. It was **called the Day of Atonement.** *Atonement* means "making right what has been wrong." The people needed to pay for their sin to make their relationship with God right again.

On the Day of Atonement, the high priest went into the most holy place, **a very special room in the tabernacle. He made sacrifices for the sins of all the people.** He offered one goat as a sin offering. **The high priest put his hands on a second goat's head to move the sins of the people to the goat.** This goat was the scapegoat. **Then the goat was led away into the wilderness to show that the people's sins were taken away.** **God said, "On that day your sin will be paid for. You will be made clean. You will be clean from all of your sins in My sight."**

God also gave the Israelites rules about how they should live. He said, "Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy." God told the people how to be holy. God said, "Do not tell lies. Do not cheat. Love your neighbor as you love yourself. Obey My rules."

Christ Connection: The Book of Leviticus is about the sacrifices God told His people to offer for sin. God wanted to show the Israelites that He was going to forgive people. God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the perfect sacrifice. Jesus forgives our sin once and for all.

SAY • God is holy. He wanted to be with His people, but God’s people could not obey God’s laws perfectly. **God made ways to forgive His people.** When people offered sacrifices, God would cover their sin. The sacrifices pointed to God’s better plan. God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the perfect sacrifice. Jesus took the punishment for sin. We no longer offer sacrifices for sin because Jesus forgives our sin once and for all.

KEY PASSAGE

Key Passage: “The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation”
Exodus 15:2a ESV

MOVEMENTS:

The Lord – point up to the sky with both fingers

Is my strength – make muscles

And my song – one hand up the other waving back and forth

And he has become – Two hands open up and move down over heart

My salvation – cross over heart to lift arms in fist half way up

Exodus 15:2a: - open up hands like book

SAY • Our verse reminds us that God is our strength, which means He helps us when we are weak. God helped us most of all when He sent Jesus to save us from our sin!

*** PRAYER**

*** ACTIVITIES:(providing more to choose from)**

***PLAY “CLEAN-UP TIME”**

Designate an area that kids can help you clean up.

Say: “If you make a mess, the best way to say you are sorry is to help clean it up! In our Bible story today, God told Moses how the people should say they were sorry for their sin, but there is nothing we can do to make up for our sin. That is why God sent Jesus to forgive us!

***CHEER FOR GOOD**

Invite kids to stand up and cheer when you name an action that is right, but to sit down and boo for a wrong choice. Use the following examples and/or create your own:

-Your mom asks you to put on your shoes. You run off barefoot.

- Your dad says it is time for bed. You put on your PJ's.
- A friend is playing with your toy. You take it away.
- A neighbor doesn't have any toys. You give him some of yours.
- Grandma asks you to fold your clothes. You shove them under the bed.

Say: "Good job deciding between right and wrong! God is holy. He always does the right thing. Sometimes we make wrong choices even when we know the right thing to do, so God made a way for people to be holy through Jesus!"

FIND WHAT'S WRONG

Have kids close their eyes. Move or change something in the room that is obvious, such as flipping over a chair or putting something in the middle of the floor. Then have them open their eyes and figure out what is wrong or different. Then have them "make it right". Continue with a few more examples. Kids love "hide and seek" kind of games.

Say: "Thanks for making things right again! When we do bad things and have sin in our lives, we are not right with God. So God sent His son, Jesus, to die on the cross for our sin so we can be right with God once and for all.

MAKE WATERCOLOR HEARTS

Cut a sheet of heavyweight paper into the shape of a heart. Use a white crayon to write "God Loves You" in the center of the heart. Using either watercolor paints or washable markers, kids can paint their heart to reveal the message.

Say: God loves us! He wants to be with us, but our sin keeps us from God. God made ways to forgive His people through offerings and sacrifices. God sent His son, Jesus, to be the perfect sacrifice. Jesus never sinned, but He took the punishment for our sin. Jesus forgives our sin once and for all.

THE APPEARING CROSS

Use painter's tape to make a cross on a heavyweight paper. Kids can color all over the page with either watercolors, markers or crayons. When done, carefully remove the tape to reveal the cross.

Say: "God sent His son, Jesus, to be the perfect sacrifice. Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Jesus forgives our sin once and for all."