



LESSON 21

3rd and 4th Grade

Principle: Jesus is our sacrifice and the new covenant.

Bible Character(s): Aaron

Scripture Reference: Leviticus 8, 16



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, please read Leviticus 8 and 16. God gave Moses specific instructions for anointing Aaron as High Priest. The High Priest was set apart for God's work and his job was to make sacrifices for the people of Israel to purify them from their sin. The sacrifices were very detailed and were generally animal sacrifices, requiring blood for the atonement of sin. We know that sin separates us from God. Through atonement (To cover a sin by paying a penalty.), we are no longer separated from God. Our atoning sacrifice is Jesus. His was the final sacrifice for the atonement of our sin. He made a way for us to come back together with God. He is also our High Priest, who intercedes for us (Romans 8:34). Think about what Jesus has done for you, and thank Him that He paid the price for your sin so you could live eternally with God.

PLUG IN TIME - 5-10 minutes as the kids begin to arrive

Arrive early to check the supplies in the bin and review the lesson. Write today's principle on the whiteboard. Remember to greet all campers upon arrival; meet their parents; welcome and introduce all visitors. Create a welcoming cabin for all campers!

Jesus is Our Sacrifice Crisscross Puzzle

Supplies:

Worksheet – "Jesus is Our Sacrifice" side (1 per camper)

Help campers work through the puzzle's answers and have them fill in the blanks. Campers will use the back of this worksheet for activities later in the lesson.



BIG GROUP Time - 35-40 minutes

As you line up, remind campers we are going to have fun as an entire Camp Grace group! We are going to live out GRACE by **Glorifying God** through worship, **Respecting All Leaders**, and **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears,

minds, and hearts – fully **Celebrating Christ** with passion! We should **Encourage Others** to do the same, by not distracting them from their worship of God.

***Take your cabin flag to Big Group.**

The Bridge to Small Group

Today we begin our study in a new book, Leviticus. We will be learning about who Aaron was, why there were sacrifices in the Old Testament (reviewing sin and atonement), and how Jesus is our sacrifice.

Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes

Getting Started

If your cabin did well in Big Group, acknowledge it. If not, take a couple of minutes to talk about how they can do better next time.

What did you learn in Big Group today? Why did the Israelites' need to have animal sacrifices offered to God? (Because of their sin; God accepted the sacrifice of an animal instead of a human life when an Israelite sinned.) **Who offered this sacrifice?** (The High Priest.) **Do we still need to make sacrifices today? Why not?** (Because God gave us His Son Jesus as the final sacrifice for all the sins of everyone in this world.)

Last week, we finished our study of Exodus. When Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments from God, the Israelites got tired of waiting and talked Aaron into making an idol for them to worship. Who remembers what that idol was? (Golden calf.) What can be an idol in our lives? (Video games, famous athletes, toys, sports, our favorite singer, etc.) God was angry, but Moses begged God to forgive the people. God answered Moses' prayer by forgiving the Israelites' sin.

Today, we will begin studying the book of Leviticus. God gave Moses detailed directions for making priests and sacrifices. Moses' brother Aaron and his sons were to become the first priests.

Let's begin in Leviticus 8 [NLT].

Leviticus 8:1-5

1 Then the Lord said to Moses, 2 "Bring Aaron and his sons, along with their sacred garments, the anointing oil, the bull for the sin offering, the two rams, and the basket of bread made without yeast, 3 and call the entire community of Israel together at the entrance of the Tabernacle."

4 So Moses followed the Lord's instructions, and the whole community assembled at the Tabernacle entrance. 5 Moses announced to them, "This is what the Lord has commanded us to do!"

God gave Moses detailed instructions to make Aaron and his sons priests. God told Moses to sacrifice a bull and rams and sprinkle oil throughout the Tabernacle. God also gave specific details on preparing and presenting the sacrifices and how the priests were to dress.

Leviticus 8:34-36

34 Everything we have done today was commanded by the Lord in order to purify you, making you right with him. 35 Now stay at the entrance of the Tabernacle day and night for seven days, and do everything the Lord requires. If you fail to do this, you will die, for this is what the Lord has commanded.” 36 So Aaron and his sons did everything the Lord had commanded through Moses.

God gave specific instructions to Moses that were necessary to make Aaron and his sons holy before the Lord. By them obeying God, it showed that they had faith in Him. It was very serious for Moses, Aaron and his sons to obey every direction that God told them. If they did not, they would die.

Follow the Directions



The purpose of this activity is to see how following detailed directions can be challenging.

Supplies:

Paper (1 per camper)

Crayon (1 per camper)

Tell campers to listen closely because you are only going to give instructions once. Give each child a piece of paper and a crayon. Tell them to draw a house with six windows, two chimneys on the roof, five flowers on each side of the door, two trees on each side of the house, apples in two of the trees, and three puppies in the yard. Give them a couple of minutes to complete the task.

Tie It Together



How difficult was it to follow all of the directions I gave you? (Allow responses.) It was pretty difficult, wasn't it? You only had what I told you to do. Moses only had the directions God gave him, which were very detailed, and Aaron only had what Moses told him to do. If he did not follow the directions correctly, he would die.

Do your parents ever give you specific directions about what they want you to do? Do you always do everything you are told to do? And do you always obey happily? When you disobey your parents, you are disobeying God. What are the consequences when you do not obey? (Allow responses.) You might have to go to your room, or sit in a time out. Your consequences may not be as bad as the consequences God gave Aaron and his sons if they did not obey, but the Bible tells us that we are all sinners and the consequence we deserve is death. God wants us to obey Him as an act of worship because we were created to worship Him.

In Leviticus 16, we learn more about the sacrifices that Aaron made to God. Why do you think the priests had to kill animals to make a sacrifice? (Allow responses) God is so holy that no one could see him or talk to him without first offering an animal's blood to atone for their sins. Atonement means to cover sin by paying a penalty.

Let's begin reading in Leviticus 16. This passage is describing a very holy festival, the Day of Atonement.

Leviticus 16:6-10, 13

6 "Aaron will present his own bull as a sin offering to purify himself and his family, making them right with the Lord. 7 Then he must take the two male goats and present them to the Lord at the entrance of the Tabernacle. 8 He is to cast sacred lots to determine which goat will be reserved as an offering to the Lord and which will carry the sins of the people to the wilderness of Azazel. 9 Aaron will then present as a sin offering the goat chosen by lot for the Lord. 10 The other goat, the scapegoat chosen by lot to be sent away, will be kept alive, standing before the Lord. When it is sent away to Azazel in the wilderness, the people will be purified and made right with the Lord.

13 There in the Lord's presence he will put the incense on the burning coals so that a cloud of incense will rise over the Ark's cover—the place of atonement—that rests on the Ark of the Covenant. If he follows these instructions, he will not die.

God gave Moses very detailed instructions to give to Aaron on how he was to present his sacrifice offerings. Aaron was to sacrifice a bull to purify himself and his family of their sins; one goat to sacrifices as a sin offering; and another goat to send out into the wilderness to purify the people by sending their sins away. God had specific directions on how Aaron was to perform these sacrifices. If he failed, he would die.

Animal sacrifices were messy and disgusting, but so is our sin to God. Does God still want us to present animal sacrifices to be the atonement for our sins? Why or why not? (Jesus is our sacrifice.)

Let's take a closer look at what our atonement is.

Sin and Sacrifice



The purpose is to review the reason for the sacrifices.

Supplies:

White board

Worksheet - "Sin and Sacrifice" side (1 per camper)

Give each camper a "Sin and Sacrifice" worksheet to fill out as you go through the activity on the board. (Teachers - please erase board at end of service.)

- Write "Sin =" on the board. Ask the campers to complete the sentence on their worksheets.
- Write "Separation from God" to complete the sentence. Tell the campers that we all disobey God; we all sin. Because we sin, we are separated from God. When Adam and Eve sinned they couldn't be near God anymore. He is Holy and they couldn't be in His presence, after they sinned.
- Write "Requires →" on the board. Then write the "Sacrifice" after the arrow and have the campers do the same on their worksheets. Tell the campers that the punishment for sin is eternal death. Our separation from God requires a sacrifice to be made. God accepted the life of the animal in place of the life of the sinner.
- Write "Adam and Eve" on the board. Tell them that when Adam and Eve sinned, God put the punishment on the innocent animals, sacrificed them, and made clothes to cover Adam and Eve. The blood of these animals covered the sin of Adam and Eve. These animals were sacrificed as atonement

for their sin. (Write “Atonement” on the board.) Atonement means to cover sin by paying a penalty. Through atonement we are no longer separated from God.

- Write “The Passover” on the board. Ask the campers if they remember when we learned about Passover while we studied Exodus. The Israelites had to sacrifice a perfect lamb. They put the blood of the lamb on the doorposts and had faith that God would pass over them and their firstborn son would not die. The lamb’s blood covered their sin, it was atonement, and the Israelites did not die that night.
- Write “Jesus” on the board. Tell the campers that in Old Testament times, God accepted the life of the animal in place of the life of the sinner when the sinner believed in God. This was just a picture of what was coming. When Jesus came, He died on the cross for our sins. There was no one and nothing more perfect and holy than Jesus. So, when He gave His life as a sacrifice, it was the final sacrifice. There’s no need to sacrifice animals any longer. Jesus’ death is the atonement for our sins. When God looks at us He sees the blood of Jesus covering our sin. If we trust in His sacrifice and follow Him, we are no longer separated from God.

Answer Key:

Sin = Separation from God

Requires □ Sacrifice

Adam and Eve

Atonement

The Passover

Jesus

Tie It Together



Romans 3:23 tells us “For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”

Sin separates us from God. Romans 6:23 tells us that the consequence of our sin is eternal death. The only payment for our sin is perfect blood. We are not perfect since we are sinners, so how do we pay the price for our sin? (Allow responses.) God gives us the answer. We do not need to perform animal sacrifices for our sins because the final, perfect blood sacrifice has already been given to us. God gave His one and only Son, Jesus, as the perfect blood sacrifice to pay the penalty for our sin. Our atonement was the sacrifice of Jesus. He made a way for us to come back together with God. His blood was enough to cover all of our sins and allow us to live eternally with God if we put our faith and trust in Jesus as Savior.

Wiping Us Clean



The purpose of this activity is to help campers see how Jesus’ blood can make us clean.

Supplies:

Bowl with water (1 per bin)

Chocolate syrup (1 per bin)

Bar of soap (1 per bin)

Paper towels

Take your hand, and tell the campers that your hand represents you. Pour chocolate syrup on your hand, explaining that it represents sin, making you dirty. Use a paper towel to wipe your hand once

or twice. Maybe let them feel the stickiness to show that your hand is not perfectly clean. Tell the campers that when you wipe your hand, you have to wipe it over and over to keep making it clean. This is like what the Israelites had to do by presenting animal sacrifices over and over to make themselves clean. Next, wash your hand with the soap and water, telling the campers that just like the soap and water is the only thing that makes your hand perfectly clean, Jesus' blood through His sacrifice is the only thing that makes us perfectly clean of sin.

Teachers – make sure to dump out water and refill bowl for the next service. Use the bathroom or the workroom to dump out/refill bowl. Also make sure there are enough paper towels and chocolate syrup for the next service. Ask your coach for help, if needed.

Tie It Together



Before Jesus came, the only way to atone or make up for one's sin was through animal sacrifices. The Israelites kept presenting sacrifices over and over to pay for their sin. We are sinners. God knew this, and He gave us Jesus as the final and perfect sacrifice to atone for our sin. His perfect blood wipes our hearts clean of sin, just like the soap and water washed my hand clean from the syrup. If we put our faith and trust in Jesus, He forgives us and takes care of us always! Through Jesus, we can live forever with God.

Prayer Time

Spend some time in prayer to close small group time. Thank God for providing us with Jesus so that we can be forgiven of our sins and have a relationship with Him.



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