

The BIBLE Story

Rules for Sacrifice

Leviticus

When Moses was with God on Mount Sinai, God gave him many laws. These laws showed the people what it looks like to live a holy life.

God is holy and cannot be around sin, but the Israelites could not keep God's laws perfectly. So God met with Moses in the tabernacle. He gave the people rules about how to live, how to worship God, and what to do when they sinned.

First, God gave rules about offerings. Offerings are gifts people give to God, such as money or jewelry. Sometimes offerings included animals. People could also give grain and bread as offerings.

Different types of offerings were needed at different times. 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 made the sacrifices that God commanded. The priests took care of the tabernacle, and they taught the people God's rules for living holy lives.

Aaron and his sons served as the priests. God gave them rules about how to offer sacrifices.

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 atone 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, to offer sacrifices for the sins of his family and for all the people. He killed one goat as a sin offering. The high priest laid his hands on a second goat's head to transfer the sins of the people to the goat. This goat was the scapegoat. Then the goat was led away into the wilderness as a picture of the people's sins being removed.

God said, "On that day your sin will be paid for. You will be made pure and 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 what it is 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 sacrifices God required of His people were a hint of what God was going to do to forgive sinners. We no longer need to offer sacrifices because we trust in Jesus. Jesus offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice that takes away our sin once and for all.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Highlight new concepts:** As you tell the story, write a list of the different terms mentioned. Review them after the story. Examples: burnt offerings (praise), sin offering (to say sorry), Day of Atonement (making right what has been wrong), scapegoat (picture of the people's sin being removed).
- **Pause for effect:** Use pauses and silence between paragraphs to capture kids' attention.



The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

Exodus 15:2



Journal Page



- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How did people in the Old Testament pay for sin?
- Why don't we offer sacrifices to pay for our sin? Who can take away our sin?
- Write a thank-you prayer to Jesus for being the ultimate sacrifice for sin.

Rules for Sacrifice

Leviticus

STORY POINT: GOD IS HOLY AND REQUIRES A SACRIFICE FOR SIN.

God is holy and cannot be around sin, but the Israelites could not keep God's laws perfectly. So God met with Moses in the tabernacle. He gave the people rules about how to live, how to worship God, and what to do when they sinned.

First, God gave rules about offerings. Offerings are gifts people give to God. Different types of offerings were needed at different times.

God also gave rules about the priests. Priests made the sacrifices that God commanded. The priests took care of the tabernacle, and they taught the people God's rules for living holy lives.

God told Moses about a special day that would happen once a year. It was called the Day of Atonement. On the Day of Atonement, the high priest went into the most holy place, a very special room in the tabernacle, to offer sacrifices for the sins of his family and for all the people.

God said, "On that day your sin will be paid for. You will be clean from all of your sins in My sight."

Christ Connection: The sacrifices God required of His people were a hint of what God was going to do to forgive sinners. We no longer need to offer sacrifices because we trust in Jesus. Jesus offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice that takes away our sin once and for all.



FOLD

Bible Book Search

Find and circle the names of the Old Testament books. (Hint: There are 39!)

F J N Y L E I K E Z E F F X F N G P S A L M S S C
 A O M O D N U M B E R S P H T U R O B 2 G D N R Q
 P S U T I Z E C H A R I A H H R N J S E M O K K S
 R H E L R F K D N F M L L H D G O A O Q I O J Q C
 O U B C D Z K U K K A B A H O E M C K T L B E N H
 V A 1 K I N G S O M A Z Y F L U U E A E J A R K A
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 R Q Y L Q J U D G E S O Z L R F N N E N R I M U I
 B J B W S G N I K 2 N W A R Z E A I H R L A I D M
 S H A G G A I H D G W Q D L M D S H B A O H A O I
 U A R E H T S E S H A I N A H P E Z F P N N H X R
 L E U M A S I K G E C C L E S I A S T E S O O E A
 Z S I S E I S A I A H M C N E H E M I A H Z J M X
 Q O L X L G E N E S I S 2 C H R O N I C L E S O Y
 D H I S U C I T I V E L P N A H U M A L A C H I B

True or False?

Mark if each statement is true or false. Then write the circled letters in order in the blanks to complete today's story point.

- | True | False | |
|----------|----------|--|
| B | S | 1. When Moses was on Mount Everest, God gave him many laws. |
| A | R | 2. God's laws showed the people what it looks like to live a holy life. |
| C | D | 3. God also met with Moses in the tabernacle. |
| O | R | 4. God said the priests did not need to follow any laws. |
| S | I | 5. The Day of Atonement happened four times a year. |
| F | N | 6. On the Day of Atonement, the high priest laid his hands on a goat's head. |
| T | I | 7. The goat was led away into the jungle as a picture of sins being removed. |
| C | K | 8. God told the Israelites, "Be holy because I am holy." |
| E | D | 9. We no longer need to offer sacrifices because we trust in Jesus. |

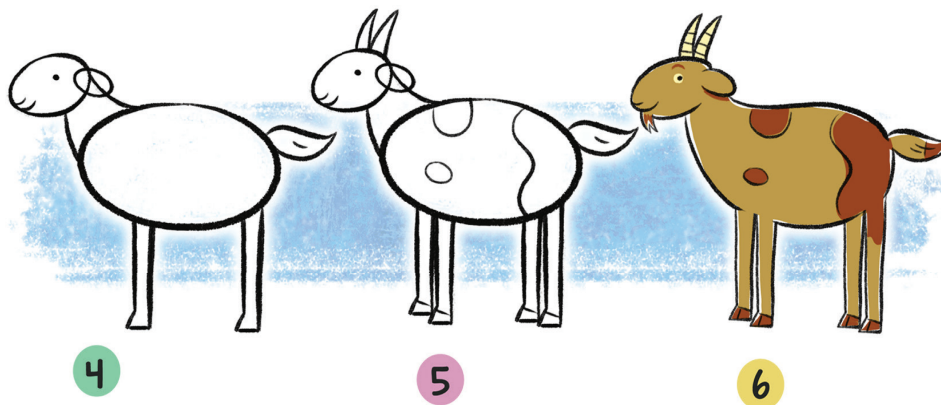
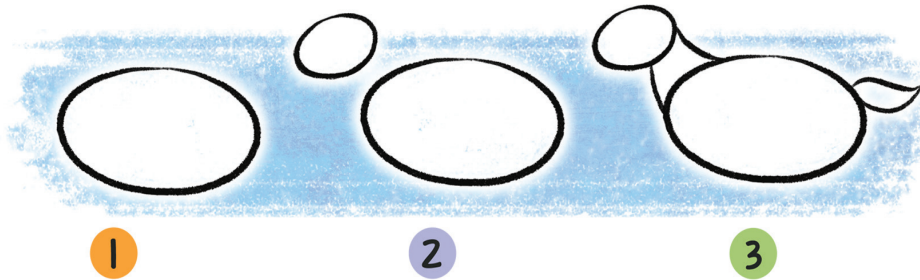


God is holy and requires a

for sin.

You Can Draw It!

INSTRUCTIONS: Use the instructions to draw a second goat for the Day of Atonement.



Younger Kids Activity Pages
Unit 6 • Session 3
Rules for Sacrifice

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- God gave the people instructions on how to give many kinds of offerings and sacrifices.
- Some offerings were used to praise God and others to cover sin.
- God is holy and requires a sacrifice for sin.

KEY PASSAGE: Exodus 15:2

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- What is worship? Worship is celebrating the greatness of God.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- What happened to the two goats on the Day of Atonement?
- Why don't Christians still offer sacrifices?
- Who is our perfect sacrifice forever?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Visit a petting zoo that has goats and lambs. See if you can find ones without spots or blemishes. Talk to your kids about the wonderful news that we don't need to offer animal sacrifices, because Jesus is our perfect sacrifice forever!
- Discuss what it means to sacrifice, and give your kids a chance to give up something to help others.



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