



The Mystery of Jesus

Part 3 – Sacrifice Study Guide

We all have issues in our lives that bother us and can make us a bit sweaty when they are talked about. They may be old habits or something that you are facing right now. You might have tried to work harder or do more good because you feel a sense of shame and guilt. Let's face it: we've all been there! In this study, we'll take a look at how Jesus' sacrifice not only forgave all sin but also changed the way we live.

“For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.” Hebrews 10:14 (ESV)

1. Have you ever felt overwhelmed by guilt and shame because of a sin in your life? Share with the group how you were able to overcome the guilt and shame. Why do we often feel the need to do more good when we sin? Do you think it works? Why or why not?
2. **Read Hebrews 10:1-7.** Before Jesus, sacrifices had to be made over and over again in order to “feel” forgiven. Do you find the Old Testament sacrifices a bit mysterious and maybe even a bit weird? Why or why not? Why could the sacrifices of bulls and goats not forgive the sins of the people? What are some of the “offerings” that you bring to God as means to try to work off your sins and clear your conscience?
3. **Read Hebrews 10:11-18.** Why could Jesus sit at the right hand of God after His sacrifice was made? Also, the forgiveness of sins doesn't mean that He took away our tendency to sin. In verse 14, what does the phrase “being sanctified” mean? What are some things in your life from which you are being sanctified?

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

4. **Read Ephesians 2:8-10.** God is more interested in a relationship with you than He is in your good works. Why is that so hard to understand? Does that make you uncomfortable? Why or why not? How does that change the way we live?

5. Pray together as a group that God would reveal areas in each of our lives that we need to grow in. If you discussed specific sins, pray and ask for God's help to overcome those sins. Also, thank God for His sufficient sacrifice in Jesus.