

Main Passage: Leviticus 1; John 14:21-26; Romans 12:1-2

Theological Theme

Sin is a big deal to God and should be to His people. He has called us to be holy as He is holy. This happens as we are transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Introduction

- What value have you found in motivation in your life? What types of tactics motivate you the most?
- In what area of do you most need spiritual motivation right now?

1. Why the Law? (Leviticus 1:1-17)

After the Israelites left Egypt, they spent a year at Mt. Sinai where God gave them the law, confirmed His covenant, established organization, and dwelled with them. Much of the book of Leviticus answers the basic question: *How do sinful people come into the presence of a Holy God?* Genesis records the fall man and introduction of sin into the world (Genesis 3). Exodus covered the deliverance of God's people from Egypt and the time that followed. Leviticus reveals the way God's people were instructed to worship.

- What do you think of when you hear the world holy? Does this stir up positive or negative images in your mind? Why?
- Would you describe your life as holy? Why or why not?
- Application: How seriously do you view your own sin? Where might you have turned a blind eye to sinful patterns in your life? What needs to change?

2. Sacrifice Today (Romans 12:1-2)

Though the book of Leviticus was written in the time before Christ there is still application today. We still need to prioritize the role of sacrifice in our lives. Paul's words in this passage in Romans offer insight into what sacrifice has to do with us today.

- How does reflecting on the sacrifice of Jesus affect your decision making each day?
- How is it possible to do good things for God but still not present yourself as a sacrifice for Him? When has this been true in your life?
- Application: Where do you currently need to fight against conforming to the world and seek to be transformed by the Word?

3. Ultimate Motivation (John 14:21-26)

People are motivated into action in many ways. Paul wrote about God's mercies in Romans 12. In John 14, Jesus taught His followers the ultimate motivation for obedience to God. Simply put, Jesus said anyone who loves Him will keep His commandments.

- What is the difference between knowing God's will and living according to His will?
- Where do you feel most lacking when it comes to a life of sacrifice and obedience before God?
- Application: How do you need to trust and lean on the Holy Spirit more? What changes do you need to make to open yourself to this?

Conclusion

- What is your primary takeaway regarding sacrifice and holiness today?
- How can we as a group support and encourage one another in obedience to Jesus?
- How could you have a gospel conversation with another person by sharing about the system of sacrifice in the Old Testament?