



Teaching Guide  
AND Essentials

- **FOR ADULTS** -



GROUP MEMBERS USE *THE BRINK*, *FUSION FAMILY*, OR *FUSION NEXT*  
DEVOTIONAL STUDY GUIDES



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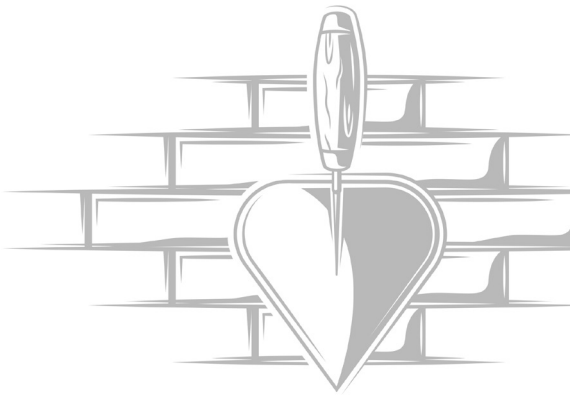


FAMILY THEME

# Offerings to God

**LESSON OBJECTIVE:** Learners understand how the sacrificial system revealed God's holy nature and put lessons from it into practice.

**STUDY TEXT:** Various Scriptures from Leviticus 1–7



## CHECKLIST

- Study the biblical text and Adult Teacher's Guide.
- Review the *Adult Teaching Outline* (Adult Handout 2-1 or AH 2-1). You can take notes on this editable document as you study. You can also use it as a guide to teach from.
- Review *PowerPoint 2* and insert your own questions if needed.
- Print and make copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 2-2), the *Devotion Handout* (AH 2-3), and *Parent Page* (PP-2) if necessary. For free access to these handouts, scan the QR code on page 3 of this teaching guide or go to [d6.family/6673](https://d6.family/6673).
- Distribute *Parent Page* (PP-2) to those who will benefit from it.

## Key Truths

- The Sacrificial System Revealed God's Holy Nature and How the Israelites Were to Relate to Him (Scriptures from Leviticus 1–7)
- The Sacrificial System Gives Us Life Lessons (Scriptures from Leviticus 1–7)

Verses of the  
Month

MARK 12:30–31

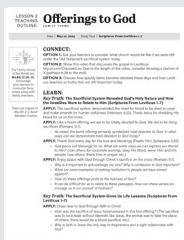
## CONNECT

Choose one of the **Connect** options to capture attention and get this session started.

**OPTION 1:** Begin by asking learners to consider what church would be like if we were still under the Old Testament sacrificial system today. How many would want to go back to that system? After discussion, say: *Today we will see how the Old Testament sacrifices in Leviticus revealed God's holy nature and pointed to the sacrifice Christ made for us on the cross.*

**OPTION 2:** To begin, consider showing this video that discusses the gospel in Leviticus: [tinyurl.com/DiscoverLev](https://tinyurl.com/DiscoverLev). Due to the length of the video, consider showing a portion of it (perhaps 6:28 to the end), showing half at the beginning and half at the end of your time together, or sending it to learners prior to your group meeting so they can watch it on their own. After discussing the video, say: *Today we will examine Leviticus. While many people skip over the book, there are great lessons we can learn from this Scripture.*

**OPTION 3:** Begin by asking your learners how many of them still have a landline telephone. How many have a phone book (or when is the last time they can remember using one)? Discuss how quickly items like phones become obsolete these days. Afterwards, say: *Some people in our culture consider things in the Bible, including Leviticus, to be obsolete. Today we will examine how Leviticus teaches us truths that are still important today.*



AH 2-1



AH 2-2

### TEACHING TIP

Learn what needs, interests, influences, and goals motivate your students. Teach with these in mind.

## LEARN + EXPLORE + APPLY

Distribute copies of the *Adult Member Outline* (AH 2-2).

Along with Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, Leviticus is an integral part of the history of the Israelites. It reveals a great deal about the holy nature of God and how the Israelites were to relate to Him after being delivered from slavery in Egypt. The sacrificial system and the Levitical laws were the foundation of that relationship and were an everyday part of their lives. Therefore, it is important for us to have some understanding of the book of Leviticus. For our purposes in this lesson, we will concentrate on the types of sacrifices found in the first seven chapters.

**KEY TRUTH: The Sacrificial System Revealed God’s Holy Nature and How the Israelites Were to Relate to Him (Scriptures from Leviticus 1-7)**

The instructions in Leviticus were given to Moses by God between the construction of the Tabernacle ([Exodus 40:17](#)) and the departure from Sinai ([Numbers 10:11-12](#)). The Levites, for whom this book is named, were the descendants of Levi (one of the twelve sons of Jacob, [Genesis 29:34](#)) and were the tribe of Aaron and his sons, from whom the priestly line was selected. The rest of the tribe and their descendants were called to assist the priests in the service of the Tabernacle.

The name *Leviticus* comes from the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Old Testament) and was given because the book serves as an instruction manual for the priests and their administration of sacrificial worship. The original Hebrew title for the book comes from the first word of the book—*and he called*—with an emphasis on the way in which God called Moses and how He subsequently called the Israelites to worship Him through the covenantal sacrificial worship explained in the book. God’s character, specifically His holiness, is a central theme of the book. This holiness is emphasized in the necessity of blood sacrifice to atone for human sinfulness and the holy standards of conduct that reflect the distinct nature of God.

**EXPLORE:**

**A Simple Outline of Leviticus:**

- The types of sacrifices and specifics related to them (chapters 1-7)
- Conditions for acceptable priesthood (chapters 8-10)
- Conditions for acceptable worshipers (chapters 11-16)
- The “Holiness Code” (conditions for acceptable living outside the Tabernacle) (chapters 17-27)

There are five types of sacrifices outlined in the first seven chapters. The key details for each type are as follows:

**Burnt Offering: [Leviticus 1](#)**

Burnt offerings could be made anytime, though they were often associated with special occasions and typically with holy days. It was also often accompanied by grain and drink offerings. It primarily served as a symbol of total dedication to God, with atonement as a secondary matter (atonement being primarily addressed by sin or guilt offerings). “Burnt” refers to an “offering of ascent,” a reference to the smoke that rises to heaven from the fire. The entire animal was

**APPLY:**

The sacrificial system demonstrated the need for blood to be shed to cover and make amends for human sinfulness ([Hebrews 9:22](#)). Thank Jesus for shedding His blood for us on the cross.

**APPLY:**

Like a burnt offering, we are to be totally devoted to God. We are to be living sacrifices ([Romans 12:1](#)).



**PowerPoint 2**

The discussion questions can also be found on the *Adult Teaching Outline* (AH 2-1) and on *PowerPoint 2*, which is customizable. Files 2A and 2B are provided for customization.

**APPLY:**

Thank God every day for His love and blessings ([Psalm 118:1](#); [Ephesians 5:20](#)).

completely burned upon the altar. Note the designation of this as a “food offering . . . to the Lord” (**Leviticus 1:9, 13, 17**). This sacrifice was for God to consume symbolically, in contrast with other types where the priests were to utilize portions of the animal as food. A male without blemish was prescribed. Allowances were made for those with limited financial resources: a bull for those with sufficient financial means (**Leviticus 1:3**), a sheep or goat for those with less (**Leviticus 1:10**), and a turtledove or pigeon for those with very limited resources (**Leviticus 1:14**).

**DISCUSS:**

• *As noted, the burnt offering primarily symbolized total devotion to God. In what ways can we demonstrate total devotion to God today?*

**Cereal/Grain Offering: [Leviticus 2](#)**

The Hebrew term refers to a gift from an inferior to a superior. It was typically offered as an act of gratitude to God for His goodness and provision. This sacrifice commonly accompanied burnt or peace offerings, though it could also be offered by itself. A handful of the grain was burned, with the remainder belonging to the priest (**Leviticus 2:2–3, 9–10**). Fine flour and oil were prescribed as key ingredients. It could be presented in multiple forms: with frankincense (**verse 1**), baked in an oven into loaves or wafers (**verse 4**), cooked on a griddle or a pan (**verses 5–6**). Leaven and honey were prohibited (**verse 11**). Salt was an absolute requirement (**verse 13**).

**DISCUSS:**

• *God pours out blessings for us. What are some ways we can express our thanks to Him? (Join others for corporate worship; obey His Word; serve Him and His people; love others; thank Him in prayer; etc.)*

**Peace Offering: [Leviticus 3](#)**

This was the standard type of sacrifice offered on feast days. The peace offering was for consumption by the people in celebration (**Leviticus 7:15–16**). It was often presented in conjunction with a burnt offering, which was presented entirely to God, as well as a grain offering (**Leviticus 7:12**). The peace offering did not have atoning connotations but was associated with restoration/reconciliation between God and man. There were three categories: thanksgiving (**Leviticus 7:12**), vow (**Leviticus 7:16**), and freewill (**Leviticus 7:16**). Various animals were allowed: bulls or cows (**Leviticus 3:1**), male or female sheep (**Leviticus 3:6–7**), male or female goats (**Leviticus 3:6, 12**).

### **Sin Offering: Leviticus 4:1—5:13**

This was an offering given for the atonement for sins against God. Specific directions were given for specific people. Priests or the entire congregation offered bulls (**4:3, 13–14**). A leader offered a male goat (**4:22–23**). A common person offered a female goat or lamb (**4:27–28, 32**). A poor person offered two turtledoves or pigeons (**5:7**). A very poor person offered a tenth of an ephah of flour (**5:11**).

#### **DISCUSS:**

- *Why is it important to acknowledge our sins? Why is confession to God important?*

### **Guilt Offering: Leviticus 5:14—6:7**

This specific type of sin offering dealt with restitution and restoration between people and God, as well as among other people. In addition to the sacrifice, the offending person had to confess his or her sin and pay full restitution, plus one-fifth to the one they offended (**Leviticus 5:16; 6:5**).

#### **DISCUSS:**

- *What are some examples of making restitution to people we have sinned against?*
- *How do these offerings point to the holiness of God?*
- *It can be difficult for us to relate to these passages. How can these verses encourage us in our pursuit of holiness?*

### **KEY TRUTH: The Sacrificial System Gives Us Life Lessons (Scriptures from Leviticus 1–7)**

The book of Leviticus revealed much to the Israelites about the nature of God, the world in which we as humans live, and the nature of our relationship with God (both His approach to us and our approach to Him). Among the many lessons for both the ancient Israelites and modern believers is that **God must be approached on His terms** (**Leviticus 1:1–2**). God gave Moses divine instructions for offerings. He was to pass these instructions along to the Israelites. God determined the parameters by which He could be approached and what was deemed acceptable as an offering. The same holds true today (**John 14:6**). Salvation is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ (**Ephesians 2:8**).

#### **APPLY:**

Enjoy peace with God through Christ's sacrifice on the cross (**Romans 5:1**).

**APPLY:**

Draw near to God through faith in Christ.

The first offering foreshadowed the atonement of our sins by Jesus Christ. A male without blemish (**Leviticus 1:3, 10**) was required. The person bringing the offering was to lay his hand on the head of the animal (**Leviticus 1:4**), acknowledging that the animal was taking his place and receiving what he deserved for his sins. Only the sinless perfection of Jesus is sufficient to pay the debt of our sins. Only through personal expression of our sinfulness and faith in Jesus as our substitute can we receive forgiveness (**Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:9**).

**DISCUSS:**

- *How was the sacrifice of Jesus foreshadowed in this first offering? (The sacrifice was to be a male without blemish; like Jesus, the animal was to take the place of others; there would be a blood sacrifice, etc.)*
- *Why is faith in Jesus the only way to forgiveness and a right relationship with God?*

Another lesson is that **the details of our worship matter (Leviticus 1:5–9, 11–13, 15–17; 2:1, 4–7, 11–13; etc.)**. The instructions regarding sacrificial offerings were very specific. Each offering had specific uses, and each variation for each offering had specific guidelines for how the animal or grain was to be prepared, presented, and processed.

How we worship God matters. There is more to acceptable worship than good intentions. Our hearts are certainly a central component. However, we still must worship God in the manner He prescribes. That applies to every aspect of our lives, not just corporate or ceremonial worship. We cannot worship God in an acceptable manner if we fail to adhere to the specific guidelines found in His Word for our daily conduct, prayer life, use of our resources, holy living, etc.

**APPLY:**

Follow the guidelines God gives us in His Word.

**DISCUSS:**

- *We know that worship is important. Why does it matter **how** we worship? (We must worship God in the way He has prescribed; worship is about Him and not our personal preferences; etc.)*
- *It's easy to become legalistic. How can we focus on worship that begins in the heart?*

A third lesson: **We are all sinful by nature and fully dependent upon the grace and mercy of God (Leviticus 4:2, 13, 22, 27; 5:14–15)**. The sacrificial offerings addressed in these verses are described as a response to *unintentional* sins (**4:2**). The original Hebrew word can also be translated as *through ignorance*. This word refers to sins



committed through weakness of the flesh, either the result of true ignorance (the person didn't know what he was doing was sinful), thoughtlessness (the person wasn't attentive), or susceptibility (the person, though overall desirous of righteousness, succumbed to temptation through weakness of the flesh). The same concept is reflected in the words of David in Psalm 19:12–13.

Unintentional sins are presented in contrast to sins committed *with a high hand* (Numbers 15:30). Such “high-handed” sins are done in full, willful, open defiance of the authority of God with no respect or desire for His lordship. There was no sacrifice available for such unrepentant choices.

The sacrifices outlined in **Leviticus 4 and 5**, however, demonstrate God's grace and mercy toward sinful man. God is fully aware of the weakness of our flesh (Psalm 103:14 – *he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.*). No matter how hard we try, we will never reach perfect righteousness here on earth. God does not dismiss our sins due to our weakness or make excuses for us, but He does provide a way for atonement, forgiveness, and eternal life. This truth should fill us with consistent gratitude to God for His love and mercy. It should also keep us humble, make us slow to judge the sins of others, and cause us to be longsuffering with our fellow man.

A fourth lesson: **God's instructions are always in our best interest (Leviticus 7:17–21)**. The prohibition from eating flesh of the peace offering on the third day (**Leviticus 7:17**) was a demonstration of God's care for His people. This is also true of the general cleanliness guidelines found later in **Leviticus (chapters 11, 13, etc.)**. These instructions demonstrate the practical nature of God's care through the Law. Without refrigeration, the consumption of meat could be a significant source of sickness. By the third day the meat would have been unsafe to eat.

As Creator of the world, there is no one who knows better how life ought to be lived than God. As the definition of love, there is no one who cares more for man than God. His instructions for us are always for our good. There is never a better choice than obedience to God's Word.

#### DISCUSS:

- *Why are God's commands and instructions what's best for us?*
- *When we're struggling to obey God's commands, how might it help to remember that He has our best interests in mind?*

#### APPLY:

Strive for holiness while being thankful for God's grace when we fail.

#### APPLY:

Obey God's commands and instructions knowing He wants what is best for us.

# RESPOND

Use one or more of these **Respond** options to help your group members put into action the principles they learned in this lesson.

**OPTION 1:** Hebrews 9:11—10:18 explains how Jesus Christ is the one sacrifice sufficient to satisfy the need for atonement for all people. Encourage your group members to read and dwell on this passage this week to gain a better understanding of why the sacrificial system is no longer needed, and to understand better the nature of Jesus Christ as our Redeemer.

**OPTION 2:** Discuss how the burnt offering symbolized total devotion to God. Ask your learners to consider their devotion to God. Encourage them to identify any areas that are not totally devoted to God and to take steps to be totally devoted to Him this week. The AH 2-3 *Devotion* handout can help your learners think this through.

**OPTION 3:** Holiness is given low priority in today's society. People are mocked for living holy lives and staying above reproach. However, Scripture calls us to be holy, even if it's not popular. Discuss with your group why holiness is important and why people seem to rebel against it. Are people more likely to regret living holy lives or disregarding holiness? Encourage your group members to put an emphasis on holy living this week. No matter what the world says, God's ways are always best.



AH 2-3

Encourage your group members to complete the daily devotions in the D6 devotional magazines this week.



PP-2

Give copies of the *Parent Page* (PP-2) to those who will benefit from it and encourage them to use it at home this week. *Parent Page* is also available for FREE download at [D6home.com](http://D6home.com). (No password required.)

# Building Blocks

Share these Bible basics with your learners.

We offer love and worship to God through obedience to Him.

# Pray!

# Notes

