

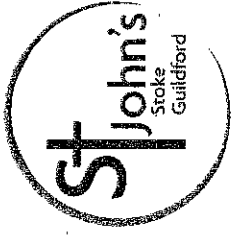
Things to do during the week/at Life group

1. What sin do you most need to repent of and know Christ's mercy?
2. Spend time in prayer and repentance; meditate on the cross
3. Read 2 Chronicles 30 in preparation for next Sunday's teaching

Questions for discussion

1. Look at 2 Chronicles 29:20-24. Why do you think it is important that the King and the Officials lead the way in repentance and sin offerings?
2. Why do you think it was necessary to sacrifice animals for sin offerings, rather than to simply pray and confess their sins?
3. Burnt Offerings (Vs25-35) were offerings of consecration. Why were the people joyful in consecrating themselves to the Lord?
4. How could you or I consecrate ourselves to the Lord today? How joyful would you feel about this? What could we offer to God as we consecrate ourselves to God?
5. How important is confession for you (i) in your daily and personal life (ii) corporately in church on Sundays? Do you think we can or should 'do away' with the prayer of Confession in our Sunday worship? Why? Why not?
6. Look at the reading from Charles Finney's book 'How to Experience Revival'. How any why does this reading challenge you?
7. What is the power of corporate confession in our Sunday worship?
8. Guilt and shame and sin grip people and rob them of life in all its fullness, the life that Jesus came to bring for everyone. How can we lead someone to Christ today, and help people to understand the power of confession, repentance and forgiveness?
9. Look at Hebrews 10:11-14. Christ is our one perfect sacrifice. How does the knowledge that Christ died for you help you in your daily life? Do you feel free, forgiven, renewed? Something else?
10. Take some time in prayer as a Life Group, thanking Christ for his sacrifice, mercy and forgiveness for you.

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 Sunday 21st January 2018
 Vision Sunday

Sermon Notes

Dedication

2 Chronicles 29:20-36

life in all its fullness
 John 10:10

Vision Sunday 2 — Dedication

King Hezekiah leads the people in Repentance and Dedication

In our passage today we are going to see a number of sacrificial offerings, sin offerings and burnt offerings.

1. Sin offerings — are offerings of sacrificial animals to atone for the sins of the people and the sins of the past.
2. Burnt offerings are sacrificial offerings of animals which are a dedication of the people as they consecrate themselves to God for the future.

Let's see what King Hezekiah did:

Sin Offerings — vs21-24

V20 — we are told that 'Early the next morning...' so the first thing that King Hezekiah did, was to gather the officials of the nation and they went to the Temple which had been newly cleansed and consecrated.

V21 — sin offering — they were following the teaching and commandments of God recorded in Leviticus 4:1-5:13

V22 — 'So they slaughtered the bulls, and the Priests took the blood and sprinkled it on the altar; next they slaughtered the rams and sprinkled their blood on the altar; then they slaughtered the lambs and sprinkled their blood on the altar.'

Leviticus 17:6 — 'The Priest is to sprinkle the blood against the altar of the Lord at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and burn the fat as an aroma pleasing to the Lord.'

Numbers 18:17 '...Sprinkle their blood and burn their fat as an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord.'

V23 — 'The goats for the sin offering were brought before the King and the assembly, and they laid their hands on them.'

Leviticus 4:13-15 'If the whole community sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the Lord's commands, even though the community is unaware of the matter, they are guilty. When they become aware of the sin they committed, the assembly must bring

a young bull as a sin offering and present it before the Tent of Meeting. The elders of the community are to lay their hands on the bull's head before the Lord, and the bull shall be slaughtered before the Lord.'

V24 — what is interesting is that King Hezekiah made this confession of sin and repentance for all of Israel, not just for Judah (his own southern Kingdom of 2 tribes), but for the whole of the Kingdom including the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

2. The Burnt Offerings V25-35

Worship and singing accompanies the burnt offerings

'Hezekiah gave the order to sacrifice the burnt offering on the altar. As the offering began, singing to the Lord began also, accompanied by trumpets and the instruments of David King of Israel. The whole assembly bowed in worship, while the singers sang and the trumpeters played. All this continued until the sacrifices of the burnt offering was completed. When the offerings were finished, the King and everyone with him knelt down and worshipped. King Hezekiah and the officials ordered the Levites to praise the Lord with the words of David and Asaph the seer. So they sang praises with gladness and bowed their heads and worshipped.'

3. Christ

For us today, things are quite different and we do not sacrifice animals for our sins. Why? Because Jesus is the one perfect sacrifice for us —

Hebrews 10:11-14 — 'Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, because by one sacrifice he has made perfect for ever those who are being made holy.'

Jesus is the one who died on the cross so that our sins can be dealt with, taken away, that we would be free.