

Sermon Based Small Group Discussion Guide

Week of January 11, 2026

Icebreaker Questions

- What's the most meaningful gift or sacrifice you've ever made for someone?
- When have you learned the hard way that "small things" can have big consequences?
- Who has made a personal sacrifice that deeply impacted your life?

Sermon Summary

(If you missed this week's sermon, it's always available by noon on Monday on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/@horizoncommunitychurch>)

The Price of Forgiveness sermon taught us that sin is never free—somebody always pays, either the sinner or a God-provided substitute. Through the sacrificial system of Leviticus 1–5, God revealed both the seriousness of sin and His mercy by allowing substitutionary atonement. Each offering pointed to a deeper spiritual reality—surrender, gratitude, fellowship, cleansing, and restoration—all ultimately fulfilled in Jesus Christ. The blood sacrifices emphasized that forgiveness is costly because sin brings death, and only life given in place of life can restore relationship with God. Today, believers no longer bring sacrifices, but are called to bring surrendered hearts, restored relationships, and lives marked by gratitude and victory through the blood of Christ.

Opening Prayer

Briefly pray and invite the Lord into your conversations to bring wisdom and insight to His Word. Pray around the theme for the sermon/discussion.

Primary Passages of Scripture

Read Leviticus 1:3–4, Leviticus 4:20, Romans 12:1, Romans 5:1, Ephesians 1:7, Revelation 12:11

Discussion Questions

- How does understanding substitution deepen your appreciation of Jesus' sacrifice?
- What role does confession play in ongoing spiritual health?
- How does the idea of substitution challenge our natural desire to justify ourselves?
- In what ways do we still try to "pay for" our sin instead of trusting Christ's payment?
- Why is restoration often harder than confession?
- How does surrender differ from obligation or religious duty?
- How does community help us remain aware of sin we might otherwise ignore?
- How can believers balance God's grace with the seriousness of sin?
- What might God be calling you to bring to the altar right now?

Prayer

- Ask: "How can we pray for you this week?"
- Assign each request to a group member to ensure everyone is prayed for during the prayer time.
- Assign someone to open in prayer and someone to close in prayer.

Closing