

# Lesson

## Engaging Introduction:

Hello, boys and girls! Today, we're going to learn about a book in the Bible called Leviticus. Have any of you heard of Leviticus before? It might be a new word, so let's say it together: Luh-vitt-i-cus. Great! Leviticus is in the Old Testament, which means it was written a long, long time ago, even before Jesus was born.

Now, Leviticus might sound like a big, complicated book, but it's actually full of important lessons about how God's people, the Israelites, were supposed to live. Imagine a set of rules for an awesome club that you're a part of—this club is called God's Family! And like any club, there are things God wanted people to do to stay safe, happy, and close to Him.

In Chapter 4 of Leviticus, the Bible talks about something called "sin offerings." Have you heard the word 'sin' before? Sin is when we do things God doesn't like—things that hurt others or ourselves—and separate us from God. So, in this chapter, God told His people what to do if they did something wrong by accident.

Let's dive in and understand what God was teaching His people. We'll see why it was so important back then and learn how this idea can help us today, too. Are you ready to explore this together? Alright, let's get started!

## Main Teaching Points:

### 1. What is a Sin Offering?

In Leviticus 4, God talked to Moses. He explained a special way for people to say they were sorry when they made mistakes without realizing it. Just like you say "sorry" to a friend when you accidentally hurt their feelings, a sin offering was God's way for His people to apologize and come back to Him.

When a person sinned, they would bring an animal to the priest. The priest would offer it on an altar—a special table for sacrifices. This act showed God the person was sorry for their sin and wanted to be forgiven. Can you imagine how this might have made the people feel? Maybe a little nervous, but also glad because they had a way to fix things with God.

### 2. Different People, Different Responsibilities:

Leviticus 4 showed that God cared about everyone, from the leaders to the common people. Each person, whether they were a priest, a leader, or just an ordinary Israelite, had to bring a sin offering if they sinned.

For example, if a priest did something wrong, he had to offer a young bull. If a leader made a mistake, he would offer a male goat. And regular people like you and me would bring a female goat or sheep. It meant that no matter who you were, everyone needed forgiveness sometimes. Isn't it cool that God includes everyone, just like how everyone can be a part of a family?

### 3. The Role of the Priest:

The priest was like a helper or a guide. Just how your teachers or parents help you learn and grow, the priests in Leviticus helped the Israelites come closer to God. When the people brought their offerings, the priest would help them perform the rituals to show that they were truly sorry.

The priests used to sprinkle the animal's blood on the altar. This may sound a bit strange now, but back in those times, it was a very important way to show God that the people wanted to be clean from their sins. It was a way to show respect and seriousness in their apology.

#### 4. Why Did They Use Animals?

Using animals might sound unusual to us today, but back then, animals like sheep and goats were very important. They were used for food, clothes, and many other things. Giving an animal was like giving up something valuable to show you're sorry.

Imagine you had to give away a favorite toy to show how truly sorry you are. It's tough, right? But that would show just how important making things right is.

#### 5. Understanding Mistakes:

God knew that everyone makes mistakes, even when they don't mean to. This chapter reminds us that we should always try to do better and seek forgiveness. Thankfully, God loves us and wants to help us fix our mistakes. It's like when you lose a game and someone hugs you and says it's alright.

The practice of sin offerings showed that God was always ready to forgive His people when they were truly sorry.

#### Personal Application for Elementary Students:

Now that we've learned about Leviticus 4, let's think about what it means for us. First, it reminds us that everyone makes mistakes. Have you ever forgotten to do your homework or said something unkind to a friend? These are mistakes, just like the sins people made in Bible times.

God doesn't expect us to be perfect, but He does want us to try to do our best and ask for forgiveness when we mess up. Instead of bringing an animal to an altar, what are some things we can do today? Maybe we can say sorry to God in prayer or make amends with someone we hurt.

It's also important to be forgiving, just like God is with us. If someone says sorry for hurting you, it's good to forgive them, too. Think of how happy and peaceful it feels when you get a hug from a friend or family member after saying sorry.

Finally, just as the priest helped people come closer to God, we have helpers in our lives too! Our teachers, parents, and even friends can guide us to make good choices. Isn't it wonderful that we have such a strong support system?

Remember, God is always there to help us. His love never changes, even when we make mistakes, and that's a great thing to always keep in your heart.

#### Interactive Discussion Questions with Teaching Guidance:

Now, let's talk about what we've learned by going over some fun questions and seeing what you think. It's okay if you don't know all the answers. This is time for us to think and share together!

1. Why do you think God wanted the people to ask for forgiveness?

- Guidance: Encourage the children to think about how saying sorry can mend relationships. You can ask them how they feel when someone apologizes to them or when they apologize to others.

2. What are some ways we can show we're sorry today, even though we don't have sin offerings?

- Guidance: Invite responses about saying sorry, writing apology letters, or praying. Try sharing a story of how a simple apology made a difference in resolving a conflict.

3. What would you do if you see someone making a mistake? How can you help them?

- Guidance: Discuss the importance of kindness and support. Encourage them to think about being a good friend and reminding others of God's love.

4. Can you think of someone in your life who helps you make good choices, like the priests did for the Israelites?

- Guidance: Help them identify role models such as family members, teachers, or older friends. Discuss what makes these role models helpful and good examples.

Remember, what's important is that we always strive to learn and grow from these lessons, understanding that God's love and forgiveness are there every step of our journey. Thank you all for your amazing thoughts and for being such active participants today!