



THE INESCAPABLE STORY

*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

04/03/2016

Leviticus chapter 2 speaks about a *minchah* sacrifice. This offering is a response to the sacrifice that provides forgiveness. It symbolizes thankfulness and obedience.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. For much of the western world the concept of sacrifice seems foreign and antiquated. What has helped you understand these in our modern context?
2. How do you know someone's sincere when they ask for forgiveness? What do you look for, or hope for, after you've forgiven someone?
3. In Leviticus 2 and others passages in the Old Testament, the *minchah* sacrifice was a response of thankfulness to God's extension of forgiveness for sins on the part of the worshipper. How does this offering prepare someone to experience the presence of God?
4. The *minchah* offering most often occurs directly after the *olah* offering that provides forgiveness, redemption and atonement. *Minchah* is often a "food" or "grain" offering. From John's sermon, what does this symbolize? Why is this significant?

5. Read Romans 12:1-2. Verse 1 uses the same word for “sacrifice” as Leviticus 2. What things characterize this sacrifice?

6. These sacrifices—the *minchah* in Leviticus and the “living sacrifice” in Romans—represent one’s trust in and dedication to God as Savior. The question that naturally surfaces is “what next?” What does the confession “God as Savior” suggest about how we should live? (1 Peter 1:3-21)

7. Offering oneself to God means to place one’s trust in him for their provision and purpose. In what areas or when do you find this most challenging?

8. What does it mean to see “God as Sustainer?” (consider Psalm 37:1-7; Matthew 6:25-34)

9. Leviticus 2:10 and Deuteronomy 18:8-20 states that God would provide for those who dedicate themselves to serving God. The priests, for example, did not own land, plant crops or practice trades. What does this convey about trusting God to be “sustainer?”

10. How does (or should) this understanding of God impact your relationship with him? What happens in a relationship where these aspects of trust are developed?

MOVING FORWARD

We respond to Jesus’ sacrifice by bringing to God the gift of our lives in service to him. The *minchah* offering was given in food because it represents what sustains our life. God is the ultimate sustainer of our lives. This week, identify one area of your life that you can or should put your full trust in him. Write down what this would look like.