

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

Scripture

Leviticus 16:2-6,15-22

Session Summary

There's a pattern to God's instructions: They are incredibly specific. Just like with the Ten Commandments, God told Moses exactly how Aaron (the high priest) was supposed to offer sacrifices. Aaron had to wear a specific clothing, which God called "the holy garments" (v. 4), and before he even put those on, Aaron had to bathe. Aaron would first sacrifice a bull for his own sins, then he would sacrifice a goat for the people's sins. This is called *atonement*. Then, he would take a live goat and place his hands on it, symbolically placing the people's sins on the goat. The goat was then released into the wilderness. Aaron had to repeat this process every year.

Conversation Questions

- What does the reverent way Aaron approached God reveal to our family about how we should approach God?
- How does this passage increase our family's appreciation for Jesus and the sacrifice He made for us on the cross?
- When has our family tried to approach God on our own terms or in our own way? When have we seen others do this?
- Why might it be difficult for our family to see our sin for what it really is?

Family Challenge

This week, choose one of the following verses to memorize about Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice and our mediator:

If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ the righteous one. He himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world. —1 John 2:1-2

He entered the most holy place once for all time, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption. —Hebrews 9:12

For there is one God and one mediator between God and humanity, the man Christ Jesus. —1 Timothy 2:5

But God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. —Romans 5:8

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" —John 1:29