

<u>Announcements:</u> Don't forget to make GREY CUP plans, Nov 26! Also, have you decided who is buying & cooking turkeys in your group? Get instructions from Pastor Chris if you don't already have them...

**<u>1. Crowd-breaker</u>** (15min) [Leaders, please don't skip this.] Discuss your first encounter with Jesus. It may have been dramatic or perhaps just informational in nature.

2. Video (5 min) Watch the Session 3 video together.

## 3. Introduction

...may I dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple." (Ps.27:4)

John tells us that Jesus is 100% God and 100% man. In John 1:29 it says, "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" This verse is the highpoint of John's testimony. He will repeat it in verses 35–36: "The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God!'"

This testimony caused the two disciples of John the Baptist to leave him and become followers of Jesus. That is what John's witness is supposed to do. That is why he is saying, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." He wants people to leave him and follow the Lamb!

It meant two shocking things for the Jews—and both of them are relevant for us today. First, it meant that the God-man would die. And not just die, but die like a lamb dies—be *slaughtered*. Second, it meant that the whole world would benefit from this and not just Jews. Through His death, this God-man would take away the sin of the world, not just the sin of Israel.

God declares that without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin. Jesus came to pay the price for us.

## 4. Scripture Read: Isaiah 53; John 1:23-36

Leaders, only assign paragraphs to those who like to read.

## 5. Discussion (45 min)

**1.** Throughout the Old Testament, the sacrificial lamb was an ongoing practice in the worship of Yahweh, to atone for sin. It all came to an end after Jesus died on the cross as the final sacrificed Lamb.

John wants us to know that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time. –Hebrews 10:10

• All of this is meaningless information if we fail to see our need of the Lamb. Discuss your need of the Lamb.

**2.** Isaiah 53 is quite graphic in its depiction of the sacrificed Lamb of God.

• How does it make you feel—what does it do for you—how do you want to respond knowing that Jesus' death on the cross was by God's design? It wasn't an accident (v. 10)

**3.** Verse one tells us that belief (faith) is critical to accepting this message about the Lamb.

• Why is this hard to believe & how do we overcome unbelief?

**4. Read Revelation 5.** We cannot ignore the Lamb who was slaughtered. In point #2, considering what Jesus did for us, we asked "what does it do for you, how do you want to respond?"

- What do we learn about true worship from this chapter?
- Those who worship Jesus have a very clear understanding of their personal need of Jesus' work on the cross.
- Discuss the reasons why we must never forget or take for granted Jesus' sacrifice.

**5.** Jesus has a record of all who put their faith in Him. **Read** Exodus 32:32-33 & Revelation 13:8-10 also, Rev. 20:11-15

- What happens if your name is not in the Lamb's Book of Life?
- Discuss how you know your name is in His Book.

**<u>6. Prayer time</u>** (not everyone has to pray out loud)

Fellowship and Snack