

# Through The Bible In One Year

## The Adventure of Many Lifetimes

Unpublished Work, December 2005, Laura Gardner.

Theme: The Sacrifice That Cleanses and Restores  
Week 7 Small Group Bible Study & Sunday School Lesson

### Open (Sharing our Own Stories & Getting To Know One Another)

1. What have you ever had to give up (sacrifice) for someone else's benefit? 2. Who has made a sacrifice for you? 3. What was the nature of the sacrifice, and what was your response?

### Going Deeper Into God's Word Together

Read aloud Leviticus 1:1-9; Psalm 37:1-11; Mark 2:13-22

Leviticus: 1. God instructs Moses in the details of animal sacrifice to atone for each individual's sin. What does God require of us for atonement of our sins? 2. What sacrifices have you made for God? 3. The sacrificial animal is a "burnt offering, an offering made by fire, an aroma pleasing to the Lord." What offering can we bring that God would find pleasing?

Psalm: 1. David is addressing the issue of evildoers who seem to go unpunished. How do you respond to that issue? 2. According to David, why should we not fret about them? 3. Who are the "meek" who will inherit the land and enjoy great peace?

Mark: 1. Jesus tells Levi to "Follow me" and he does! How have you responded to God's call to follow him? What does that mean to you and the way you live your life? 2. The Pharisees are outraged that Jesus would eat (a sign of friendship) with sinners. Who are the "outcasts/sinners" of society that our church needs to reach out to in friendship and love? 3. The Pharisees again are appalled that Jesus and his disciples are not fasting, which violates the religious rules of the day. Jesus responds with teachings about unshrunk cloth and new wineskins. How can you apply this to what Jesus is teaching you about religious rules and practices?

### **Reflecting On What God Is Telling Us:**

1. How much are you willing to sacrifice for God right now? \_\_\_\_\_ everything \_\_\_\_\_ a great deal \_\_\_\_\_ a moderate amount \_\_\_\_\_ very little
2. What kinds of sacrifices would be pleasing to God?

### **Applying/Putting into Practice What God's Told Us**

What kind of sacrifice can you make this week to aid a fellow sinner?