



CHOOSE SACRIFICE



Highlight Scripture: "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." **Hebrews 13:15-16**



Explain: Sacrifice. There's no way to sugar-coat it. It hurts. It's supposed to. Sacrifice isn't pleasant. It is the act of giving up something you love or value for a greater purpose.

Paul says in Philippians chapter 2 verses 6 through 8 that Jesus, "emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." It's important to understand what Jesus emptied Himself of. He left the comforts of heaven to come to earth, to take on human form, to die on a cross. He gave up all this so that He could meet our need for salvation. We will never be called to make that kind of sacrifice, but let's look at some sacrifices we can make in response to Jesus' sacrifice. In Hebrews chapter 13 verses 15 and 16, God tells us what sacrifices please Him, "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." When we bring a "sacrifice of praise," we choose to believe that, even though life is not going as we think it should, God is still good and can be trusted. When we choose to praise God, despite the storms, He is honored, and our faith grows deeper. Real praise continues, regardless of circumstances.

In verse 16, it tells the other sacrifices that please God: doing good and sharing with others. Instead of focusing on ourselves and our own needs, look for opportunities to pour into other people. Stop living for yourself. The world is full of people who are hurt, lost, and discouraged. You don't have to save the world, Jesus already did that. But helping others is something He wants us to do. Don't wait. Take the opportunity to help someone. You won't regret it, and God won't forget it - "For such sacrifices are pleasing to God."



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Apply: This week's Help Tool will help you share Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and how you can choose a relationship with Him. Pass out an eFold to each student and explain what each section means, by following the instructions in the packet.



Respond: Let's get into groups and practice sharing the eFold, before we leave today.



Bottom Line: Choose today to live a life of sacrifice.

*You can print this
resource [here!](#)*

