

Lost in Translation: Payment Received

Small Group Discussion Guide—7/29/2018

This week's insider phrase is **SACRIFICE**. The idea behind this word is "giving up something of value for something of even greater value." What are some of the things "of greater value" that you would be willing to make a sacrifice for?

Read 1 Samuel 15:1-23.

- What stands out to you most in this story?
- Why do you think Saul disobeyed God?
- Why was God so upset with Saul's actions?
- What do you think of God's punishment to Saul in verse 23? What does this tell us about God's heart?

Let's learn more about God's heart by looking up the following verses:

- Hosea 6:6
- Proverbs 21:3
- Deuteronomy 6:4-5
- Matthew 22:36-40

What does God want more than anything? Why? How does this make you feel?

Sometimes God does want us to sacrifice things in our lives. Take a few minutes to talk about some reasons why he might want us to give something up. How can understanding God's motives help us to better understand his character?

Read Hebrews 10:11-18.

- Compare and contrast the priest's sacrifices (v 11) with Jesus's sacrifice (v 12-14).
- What does verse 18 tell us about our need for any future sacrifices?
- How does this passage help us correct the misconceptions that Christianity is about sacrificing things to earn God's favor?
- How do the passages we looked up earlier about God's heart work together with this passage about Jesus' sacrifice?

Remember as you go forth this week to take time to spend with God, giving him your heart, not your rituals or sacrifices, and thanking him for the ultimate sacrifice he gave us in Jesus.