

*Would you like to join a Small Group at Fellowship Bible Church?*

Most existing groups are open to new group members, and new groups begin on a regular basis. If you have friends in a small group, ask about joining their group. If you are new to Fellowship and are looking for a place to connect, please feel free to contact us and we can help you find the right group.

**Leader Tips:**

1. The sermon notes are designed to be used as a guide for discussion. Don't feel like you have to use every question. Some questions will take a while to work through, others will be over in a few seconds!
2. Don't teach the lesson. The sermon was taught on Sunday morning. Just ask questions and let everyone else talk.
3. Let other people ask questions. It's OK to go "off topic" for a while. Sometimes those conversations are more interesting anyway!
4. Have fun. Relationships, not curriculum, are the heartbeat of Small Groups. So have fun with the people in your group.

*Agenda for a Small Group Meeting*

**Gathering Time**

Take 15-20 minutes to welcome everyone, catch up, and share some food!

**Discussion Time**

Here's a suggested format:

1. **Ice Breaker** – Lighthearted ice-breaker question (15-20 min.)
2. **Discussion** - Discussion time, Bible study, application challenge (30-40 min.)
3. **Prayer** – Prayer requests and praying for one another (15-30 min.)
4. **Planning** – Keep the vision before the group, HEALTH planning, etc. (10 minutes)

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Mary Had A Little Lamb

**Rooted**

Phillip Wright

June 20, 2010

**Warm up!**

What gives you a sense of purpose or fulfillment?

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My thoughts on God having a purpose for my life:

- Is *that* why I'm in this mess?
- I've always favored a bottom-up management style.
- But I don't have time for purpose!
- I'd rather stay stupid. That way I don't have to change.
- It's incredible that God would think about me!
- I could sure use a plan!
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Talk it over!**

The Bible is a Story of a Lamb

Chapter 1: "Where's the Lamb?"

*Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"*

*"Here I am," he replied.*

*<sup>2</sup> Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."*

—Genesis 22:1-2

1. Remember our friend *Herman Eutics*.

- It was a culture of we, not me.
- The first born belonged to God (Exodus 22:29; 13:2)
- A debt had to be paid. (Numbers 3:46-47)
- "I hope God will provide a little lamb so my lamb won't have to die" (Genesis 22:5-8, 13-14)

Question: Why did Abraham take Isaac to the altar?

- He was afraid of God
- He was committed to unquestionable obedience
- He knew God would provide
- He believed God would raise Isaac from the dead
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Question: How does understanding the whole story of scripture help us understand this particular story?

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## 2. Objections:

- I can determine my own standards
- Can't God forgive without payment?

Question: How did Phillip address these two objections during the sermon? What do you think of Phillip's response to these objections?

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## Chapter 2:

### "What a Difference a Marked Door Makes"

#### 1. Here comes da Judge.

*"On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup> The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt... <sup>23</sup> When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.*

—Exodus 12:12-13; 23

Question:

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. Take cover.

*<sup>23</sup> When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians, he will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and he will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down.*

—Exodus 12:23

*By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.*

—Hebrews 11:28

In each house there was either a dead son or a dead lamb.

Question: What do you see as the reason for sprinkling blood on the doorframes?

- The blood of a sacrifice was the most important part
- The "destroyer" would see the blood and know which houses to pass over
- It was act of faith
- It was a nice decoration
- It put into effect the substitution of the animal's life for human life
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 3: God's Perfect Lamb

*And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. <sup>10</sup> You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth." <sup>11</sup> Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. <sup>12</sup> In a loud voice they sang: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!" <sup>13</sup> Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" <sup>14</sup> The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.*

—Revelation 5:9-14

How is Jesus described in the above passage?

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#### 1. The Lamb wasn't on the table because the lamb was at the table.

*While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." <sup>27</sup> Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. <sup>28</sup> This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.*

—Matthew 26:26-28

Question: Why do many Christians struggle with guilt if Jesus provides the forgiveness of sins?

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#### 2. Isaac's question is answered by John the Baptizer

*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*

—John 1:29

- To "behold" means I will think, realize, take it in.
- I will trust Jesus as my substitute.
- When I come to Him, I am transformed. It will change how I look at others. We are saved on the basis of the blood of the lamb.

Question: How deeply do you know God's forgiveness of your sins? Have you "Beheld the Lamb" as John asks us to in the passage?

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## Work It Out!

One thing I'll do differently because of this sermon:

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