

MAIN POINT

Though we all have willingly turned from God, Jesus willingly went to the cross to pay our punishment.

INTRODUCTION

Describe a sacrifice you have made in the past to achieve a personal goal or display an act of devotion. For example, have you ever observed Lent by giving something up?

What feelings and struggles did you experience during that period of sacrifice?

Today we will continue our study of Isaiah 53 that predicted the greatest act of sacrifice ever made. On the cross, Jesus paid the debt of every sin in the history of mankind—even those that will take place in the future. Only the perfect Son of God could perform an act of sacrifice that would sufficiently satisfy God's requirement for repayment. Our hearts should be overwhelmed with continual gratitude to Jesus for His sacrifice.

DISCUSSION

> READ ISAIAH 53:6-7.

In what way have all people gone astray from the truth of God like sheep?

How does it make you feel when you reflect on the fact that Jesus took your punishment on the cross?

What specific sins in your life do you have a hard time believing that Christ has paid for? How do these verses speak to you in that area?

What do you know about the sacrificial system of God's people in the Old Testament? Look at Leviticus 16. How did Jesus provide the final sacrifice for His people?

Why is it significant that Jesus was without sin when He died on our behalf?

How does Jesus' identity as God in human flesh give more weight to the fact that He willingly went to the cross and did not speak against His accusers though He committed no sin?

How have each of us acted as Jesus' accusers through our sinful thoughts and actions?

How did God show perfect justice and love in the sacrifice of Christ?

APPLICATION

Where do you need to confess your sin before the Lord, trusting that Jesus has willingly paid the full price for sin of those who trust in Him?