

## EPISODE 27 – My Sacrifice and Yours

1. How conscious are you of offering yourself totally to God?
  - In all honesty I must say that I am not conscious of this. I have heard the priest say so often "Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father." so often that the full meaning of what he has said slips right by me. I am thankful that this lesson helps me to not only take note of these words of prayer but also seriously consider what the prayer means to me and for me.
  - The next time I hear these words, and hopefully every time I hear them, I will consciously offer to combine my personal sacrifice of self with that of the priest, and the rest of the body of Christ to God our Father.
2. Why is the Lord's sacrifice the "perfect sacrifice"?
  - **Matthew 9:13** {Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."}
  - God is love. God created me in His image and likeness, He created me to love. First to love Him. Second to love my neighbor as myself. God did not create me to offer sacrifice, but sacrifice has always been a human way of expressing our love of God, returning to Him that which He has given us in love as an expression of our love. What is most important is that we love. We are sinners and the fact that we have any hope of an eternity with Him requires Him to have mercy on us and forgive us of our sins. God's mercy is infinite. We can see just how perfect is God's mercy in this verse.
  - **John 3:16** {For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.}
  - God sacrificed His greatest love, His only Son, Jesus, for us, because His love is perfect. Perfect love. Perfect sacrifice. We are called to love Him as He loves us. Our sacrifice can never be as perfect as His, but I believe that my love, freely given to Him and his people, is the sacrifice that God desires from me. Giving my love to others often requires me to first be merciful and forgiving. That is my sacrifice.