

GRATITUDE WITH A STORY

January 26, 2020

LAST WEEK: **The First Three Offerings** were voluntary/optional
They were ways of expressing gratitude and thanksgiving
Different Options depending on people's means - herd, flock, bird
Not about Rules, Rigidity or Repression
Question: How would you describe the alternative?

PEACE OFFERING or Offering of Wellbeing (earlier referenced in Leviticus 3)

SCRIPTURE: Leviticus 7:15-17

And the flesh of your thanksgiving sacrifice of well-being shall be eaten on the day it is offered; you shall not leave any of it until morning. But if the sacrifice you offer is a votive offering or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day that you offer your sacrifice, and what is left of it shall be eaten the next day; but what is left of the flesh of the sacrifice shall be burned up on the third day.

QUESTION: Why the rule about a limited time period for eating the sacrifice?

SLAVE TO FREE: How would you describe the move from forcibly making sacrifices to Ra, the Egyptian sun god, who represented the system where you were nothing but slaves -to- a God who says you are free to make this offering, and if you do, a majority of the meat you will be allowed to eat and enjoy during a feast with this God?

QUOTE: Rev. James Martin, Jesuit Priest

The penance of the Rosary or the Hail Mary is not to achieve or earn forgiveness, but is offered as an opportunity to participate in a larger story that reinforces your right relationship with God.

LAST WEEK: Gratitude as a necessary precursor to Empathy

FIVE SUGGESTION FOR TEACHING GRATITUDE:

Ok to Fake it - Acting our way into a new way of thinking
Pause and Appreciate
Don't be afraid of allowing your children to be disappointed
Set-up opportunities for you to thank your child
Model

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 107:2

Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe...

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 107:22

Let them sacrifice a thanksgiving offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.

QUESTION: What happens around a meal with friends?

RABBI: Make sure the story you tell at the feast is worthy of the life of the animal?

TELLING OUR STORIES

What do you do to encourage storytelling with your children?

What would it look like to model storytelling of thankfulness?

OTHER STUFF-

Service Opportunity: Boys & Girls Country on May 2 (10am - 5pm)

Night Out for Parents?

Family event