



## **SMALL GROUP LESSON**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

## **BLOOD COVENANT**

EXODUS 24:3-8

When a family purchases a home, it usually involves a contract, especially if money is being borrowed from a lending institution towards the purchase price. The contract is an agreement or covenant between two parties each of which have made promises to each other. When Moses led the people of Israel in a sacrificial ceremony at the foot of Mount Sinai, it was covenant making event. Let's examine what took place and see how that event might apply to our lives as God's people in this day and time.

1. In order to be properly prepared for this covenant ceremony, Moses erected 12 stone pillars and he built an altar. Why do you think he did these two things?
2. In our day and time, contracts become official when they are signed. How was this contract between God and the Israelites signed and why did it involve blood? Read Leviticus 17:11 for additional insights regarding this question.
3. Each party entering into a covenantal agreement is expected to abide by certain obligations and expectations. What did the Israelites promise to do with regards to their relationship with God? What had the Lord already promised to do for the people of Israel in Exodus 19:4-6?
4. Do we as Christians have a covenant with God? How is it like and how is it different from the covenant that God made with the Israelites? What did Jesus mean when He said in Matthew 26:28, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

### **Digging Deeper:**

In Hebrews 9:11-28 the writer compares the sacrificial death of Christ to the sacrificial system of the Israelites beginning with what happened at Mount Sinai during the covenant making ceremony. Why does this writer consider Christ's death on the cross to be superior to the Old Testament form of sacrificial worship?