

## WEEK NINE | THERE'S POWER IN THE BLOOD

Blood... Yeah, that's a weird way to start a group discussion guide, but this week it's the key word, so we can't ignore it. When we think about entertainment (movies), blood is gruesome and gore. It's crazy to think it's the key ingredient in so much of our entertainment. Refocus now on blood's relationship with us and God. Yes, it's still grounded in violence but, in the end, it is life-giving even though it cost one significant life to make it that way.

When you hear the phrase "There's power in the blood," what images, memories, or emotions come to mind?

## TALK ABOUT IT

Read Hebrews 9:11-12

How does understanding that we live under the *New Covenant* affect how you read the Old Testament today?

Why do you think it was (and still is) so hard for people to "let go" of old systems or traditions, even after Jesus fulfilled them?

What do you think about or feel when hear the word sacrifice?

Read Leviticus 17:11 and Hebrews 9:22.

What do these verses teach us about the seriousness of sin and the cost of forgiveness?

Michael Kruger said, "Sometimes I don't think we pause enough to really think about the role of blood in our salvation. It means someone's life had to be taken in our place. It means that our sin is a big deal – bigger than we think – and demands a terrible price."

## **STOP NOW AND PRAY**

Pray a prayer of thanksgiving for what Jesus sacrificed and the new chance at life he gave us.

## **APPLY IT**

You have probably struggled with guilt, shame, or the feeling that you had to "earn" forgiveness. I mean, who hasn't?

How does understanding Jesus' perfect sacrifice challenge or comfort you?

How might recognizing the "power in the blood" change how you view communion, baptism, or worship?