

On Wednesdays this month we're looking at worship
"then and now." Hebrews 12:28 issues a clear call
and thus offer to God acceptable
worship, with reverence and awe
but how should <i>we</i> answer that call? There's a big
difference between worship "then" and "now."
Throughout the Old Testament, we read about God's
people building altars "to the LORD":
*(Gen 8:20)
❖(Gen 12:8)
*(Gen 26:25)
♦(Gen 35:7)
*(Exo 17:15)
In fact, God made a precious promise in connection
with altars and sacrifices made to him:
"I will to you and you."
(Exo 20:22-24)
For the next 1,500 years, the Israelites would offer
animal sacrifices— lots and LOTS of sacrifices. Until
"Behold, the of God, who takes away
the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)
With the sacrifice of Jesus as "the Lamb of God,"
something changed.
Christ offered for a single
sacrifice for sins (Heb 10:12)
Does that mean ${\bf all}$ sacrifices for all time are done? No.
I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies
of God, to present your as a
sacrifice, holy and acceptable to

God, which is your spiritual _____. (Rom 12:1)

For Class & Family Discussion:

- Thinking back to examples of people like Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses... what were they doing? What were they communicating and teaching by building altars?
- Why animal sacrifices? Where did that even begin? Genesis 3:7, 21 and Hebrews 9:22 might be helpful here...
- And yet, animal sacrifices were limited in a very important way. What couldn't they do? Hebrews 10:1-4 offers important insight...
- So what was needed? And according to Hebrews 10:5-7, how did Jesus provide the answer?
- Take a look at Hebrews 13:10-15. In your own words, what do disciples of Jesus need to understand?
- If Jesus offered "for all time a single sacrifice for sins," (Heb 10:12) why does it matter how I live?
- Practically speaking, what does it mean to "present" my body "as a living sacrifice"?