



## The Star

**Focus** In the follow-up to Gateway’s summer musical, *The Show*, we learn more about Jesus being the “star” of God’s “show.” Jesus didn’t come with fame as most entertainment stars do; He came as a sacrificial lamb.

**Fun** Take 10–15 minutes to play charades as a group. Write down the names of five or six movies, books or songs, each on a separate slip of paper. Hand out the slips of paper and have group members take turns acting each out and guessing the names. Make it more challenging by using a timer!

**Review** Key Scriptures: Revelation 22:16; Exodus 29:38–39; Genesis 22:7–8; John 1:29; Exodus 12:5; 1 Peter 1:19; Ephesians 5:27; Leviticus 22:21; 1 Corinthians 5:7

In the Old Testament, lambs were sacrificed twice a day to atone for the peoples’ sins. Jesus came as the Lamb of God who paid for our sins once and for all. This makes Him the “star” in God’s “show.”

- *The Star was provided.* Just as God provided Abraham a ram to sacrifice in place of His son Isaac, He provided Jesus to be the sacrificial Lamb for our sins. (John 1:29)
- *The Star was pure.* The Old Testament sacrificial lambs had to be without blemish and 100% pure. Jesus was without defect, and He makes us, His people, 100% pure by His blood. (Exodus 12:5; 1 Peter 1:19; Ephesians 5:27)
- *The Star was perfect.* Just as the sacrificial lambs had to be perfect to be accepted, Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for our sins. We don’t come to God based on our own performance, but through the acceptable sacrifice of Jesus. (Leviticus 22:21; 1 Corinthians 5:7)

**\*Group Dynamics Idea\*** Try sitting in a different seat from where you normally sit. It shakes things up a bit and will give you a new perspective on how the group interacts.

- Discuss**
1. Did you watch Gateway's summer musical, *The Show*? What was your favorite part? Which character did you most identify with?
  2. Sometimes we try to hide our sins from God and others, or we try to do something to make up for our sins. In your opinion, why do we have trouble believing that Jesus' blood covers *all* of our sin?
  3. Abraham was in a desperate place when God provided the ram for his sacrifice. Have you ever been in a desperate place and God provided for you in an unexpected way? Share the story with the group.
  4. Have you ever thought much about Jesus being pure and perfect? He was both God and man, and He never sinned. What did that look like? Which character qualities did He have? Which did He not have?

- Take Home**
- As we conclude, remember the following:
- God provided Jesus, His own sacrificial Lamb, to pay for our sins.
  - Jesus was 100% pure, without blemish or defect.
  - Jesus was perfect, an acceptable sacrifice to God.

**Pray** Invite group members to share their prayer requests and then pray for each other.

**\*New Leader Tip\*** Resist the temptation to measure your group solely by how many people show up. Instead, focus on serving and caring for those who come. Some groups grow quickly, and others stay smaller for a specific purpose. Both types of groups are good.