

THE SACRIFICE YOU ALREADY KNOW

Before the Bible ever asks anything of us, life already has.

The parent who picks up a second shift to cover tuition didn't wait until it felt manageable. The student who signed their name to a loan didn't wait until the math made sense. The athlete in the gym before sunrise, skipping the party, pushing through exhaustion—they moved because the goal was worth more than the comfort.

God is asking for the same type of faith, directed now toward Him. The question this season is whether you trust God the same way you trust a goal.

THE CALL

FAST: One meal daily for 33 days—March 4 through Easter Sunday, April 5.

PRAY: Intercessory prayer for divine intervention—for wars abroad, healing in our homes, and restoration in our community.

SACRIFICE: Three days' pay, offered across three Sundays: April 5, April 12, and April 19. As Jesus was in the grave three days and three nights, we give in three acts of faith.

A Turning Point

I remember the exact moment. I was upstairs in our home in Columbus with three children, a stack of credit card statements, and funds leaving our family far faster than they came in. I sat there and broke out in hives.

Throughout my life, I had embraced sacrifice in many forms—time, service, prayer. But I had never truly reckoned with what it meant to honor God with the first of my finances.

That night, a quiet, undeniable voice told me: Trust Me and Tithe.

I obeyed and the breakthrough was real. The act of tithing made me more intentional. Priorities realigned. Discipline emerged—financial and spiritual. The bills that had seemed immovable began to move.

I am not writing to you as someone who has never been on the edge. I am writing to you as someone who discovered, from that edge, that God is faithful when we are obedient.

— *Rev. Dr. Pastor David Jefferson, Sr.*

Contact us

Join us Easter Sunday, April 5:
Resurrection Celebration Brunch.

For complete fasting guidelines and prayer resources, scan the QR code:

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METRO
METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

FROM
**SACRIFICE TO
SALVATION**
PURPOSE. PAIN. PRIZE



Rev. Dr. David & Rev. Linda Jefferson
Pastor & First Lady

God has always asked the most
of those who had the least. And
the reward has always been
greater than the cost.

*“Walk in the way of love, just as Christ
loved us and gave himself up for us as a
fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”*

— *Ephesians 5:2*

THREE WIDOWS. THREE MOMENTS. ONE PATTERN.

SACRIFICE IN FAMINE—1 KINGS 17

A widow in Zarephath had only enough flour and oil for one final meal before she and her son would starve. The prophet Elijah asked her to feed him first. She obeyed. Her flour and oil did not run out for the entire duration of the famine. What she had offered as a last meal became a season of.

SACRIFICE IN DESPERATION—2 KINGS 4

A widow's husband had died; creditors were coming for her sons. She had only a single jar of oil. The prophet Elisha told her to borrow empty jars, pour what she had, and shut the door. The oil multiplied until every jar was full. She sold it, paid every debt, freed her sons, and lived on the remainder. God worked with what she already had.

SACRIFICE IN WORSHIP—MARK 12:41-44

A widow gave two small copper coins at the temple—everything she had to live on. No miracle followed. But Jesus, watching from across the room, declared her gift greater than all the wealthy offerings combined. To be seen and honored by God in that way is a different kind of reward—and the one Scripture records.

PURPOSE. PAIN. PRIZE.

PURPOSE—WHY WE SACRIFICE

From the Garden of Eden to the cross of Calvary, God established an unbroken pattern: real restoration requires real sacrifice. Every animal skin that covered Adam and Eve, every Passover lamb, every altar in the Levitical system—all were pointing forward to one final offering. Christ fulfilled them all. When we sacrifice, we participate in that same pattern. We declare: I trust God more than I trust what I'm holding.

PAIN—WHAT IT COSTS

King David said he would not offer God what cost him nothing. This season, we are asking every member for three days' pay, given across three Sundays. The figure is specific because the principle demands it. A gift that requires no faith produces no breakthrough.

PRIZE—WHAT FOLLOWS

The biblical record is consistent: what you give from faith, God multiplies. The widow's oil filled every jar. Abraham received a nation. Ruth received a home and a lineage. Christ's sacrifice purchased eternity. **The reward has always been greater than the cost.**

WHEN FAITH GOES FIRST

Faith and financial instinct often pull in opposite directions. When resources are tight, generosity can feel like a weight we cannot carry. That is a deeply human response and Scripture does not dismiss it.

But look at who God has chosen to ask. A widow preparing her last meal, told to feed the prophet first. A woman in debt, on the edge of losing her sons, told to pour out what little she had. A widow at the temple, giving two coins with nothing held back.

These were not people who gave from abundance. They gave from the edge—and God met them exactly there. The affordability question is real but it is also the wrong question. The question God is asking is a different one:

“Do you trust Me with the part that feels impossible to give?”

Obedience is the door. Scripture is clear about what waits on the other side.