

Leviticus 2:1-16

The **grain offering** (or meal offering) in Leviticus 2 is more than just a recipe—it's a powerful symbol of dedication and service to God. The Israelites would bring fine flour mixed with oil and frankincense, bake it, and offer it to the Lord. Think about it: making flour back then wasn't a quick stop at the grocery store. It meant planting seeds, harvesting grain, grinding it into fine powder, and pressing olives for oil. This offering represented the work of their hands, their daily grind, and their service. They were saying, *"God, I'm offering you my work, my effort, and my life."*

What does this mean for us today?

In modern terms, this offering is like saying, *"God, here's my time, my skills, and my energy. I'm giving You my best."* Maybe it's the hours you spend reading and studying the Bible, the time you dedicate to helping others, or the creativity you use to solve problems. It's about honoring God with the work you do every day—whether it's at school, on the job, or at home.

And here's a cool twist: just like the smell of freshly baked bread fills a house with comfort and joy, our offerings—our service to God—should rise up like a sweet aroma to Him.

Things to avoid: Leaven and Honey

In the grain offering, God gave specific instructions: no **leaven** (yeast) and no **honey**. Leaven symbolized sin—it puffs up and corrupts. Honey represented natural sweetness, but God was saying, *"Don't bring what's already sweet in your own eyes. Bring what is transformed by Me."* This is a reminder for us: when we serve God, it's not about impressing Him with how "good" or "sweet" we are on our own. It's about letting Him shape us into something greater.

Instead, God told them to include **salt** in every offering. Salt preserves and brings out flavor. Jesus said we are the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13), which means our lives should preserve goodness, truth, and love in a world that often feels like it's falling apart.

A Personal Challenge

Here's the takeaway for Gen Z: What are you "baking" for God? Are you giving Him your best effort, or are you holding back? Your grind, your passions, your gifts—those are your offerings. But remember to check your heart. Are you letting sin or self-centeredness sneak in like leaven? Or are you letting God's Spirit add the "flavor" of His character to your life?

Reflection:

- What part of your daily life can you intentionally offer to God this week?
- Are there any "ingredients" (like sin or self-reliance) you need to leave out of your offering?

When you dedicate your work, time, and energy to God, it's like sharing a meal with Him. You're saying, *"God, I want to do life with You."* And that's something He loves—a relationship built on

Through the Bible
Daily Reading Companion
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mutual love and commitment. So this week, let your life “smell” like fresh bread, an offering that makes God smile.