

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: WEEK FOUR // LEVITICUS

KEY UNDERSTANDING OBJECTIVES

1. The book contains instructions to the priests and Levites for their role as ministers.
 2. The instructions show God's people how to be holy.
 3. Holiness is God's best for people (ie. The heart behind God's Law is that they are for our own good – to maintain relationship with Him, with one another, and to benefit our everyday lives)
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ACTIVITY 1

[The book contains instructions to the priests and Levites for their role as ministers]

Understanding

1. List some of the roles of the Levites and priests.
2. This book of Leviticus gives the Levites and priests some clear instruction on how to fulfil these roles.

Can you find 3 examples of instructions on how to perform their roles, including:

- scripture reference
- instruction given by God
- the function the priests/Levites would have to perform

Example:

In their role of sacrificing offerings

- Leviticus 6:9
- Gives detailed instructions on how to sacrifice the burnt offering
- They had the responsibility of overseeing the burnt offering give by the people – to keep the burnt offering on the altar and maintain the fire throughout the night.

ACTIVITY 2

[The instructions show God's people how to be holy]

Observe

Leviticus 20:26 *'You shall be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine.'*

Look at the context of this verse by reading the whole of chapter 20. (Remember that what is said before a verse will help us understand what a verse actually means.)

Understand

From what you have read in the above chapter, what do you understand about 'holiness' from God's perspective:

1. What does it mean to be holy?
2. What is the purpose of being holy?
3. How can someone be holy?
4. What happens when someone does not walk in holiness?

Apply

Read Leviticus 18:3

God wanted His people, Israel, to be a holy nation – set apart from the world around them. We, as Christians, are also called to be holy (read 1 Peter 1:14-16).

- What does it mean to be holy for a Christian? (based on scriptures from the New Testament)
- Aren't we made holy before God through Christ? Then what is Peter talking about living with holy conduct/behaviour?

ACTIVITY 3

[Holiness is God's best for people (ie. The heart behind God's Law is that they are for our own good – to maintain relationship with Him, with one another, and to benefit our everyday lives)]

Observe and Understand

Read these commands found in Leviticus and write down what benefit you think would have come by following them. Do they protect relationships? Do they protect individual people?

1. Leviticus 13:1-6
2. Leviticus 13:47-59
3. Leviticus 18:6-13
4. Leviticus 19:9-10
5. Leviticus 25:39-43

Apply

Matthew 22:36-40

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

Jesus said that the whole of the Law can be summed up by two things: Love God. Love others. From your lecture and time spent reading Leviticus, how would you suggest we, as Christians, should approach the Law of the Old Testament? How would you explain the Law to a new Christian reading the Old Testament for the first time?