

Small Group Guide: Leviticus

Opening Prayer

Begin your group time by thanking God for His Word and asking the Holy Spirit to illuminate the Scriptures and help you see Christ throughout the entire biblical narrative.

Ice Breaker Question

What book of the Bible have you found most difficult to read or understand? Why do you think that is?

Sermon Overview

This sermon challenges us to see Leviticus—and all of Scripture—as one continuous story pointing to Christ. The laws, statutes, and ordinances aren't arbitrary rules but are deeply connected to the narrative of redemption that begins in Genesis and culminates in Jesus.

Key Takeaways

1. The Bible is One Continuous Story

The Hebrew grammar itself shows that Genesis through 2 Kings is one unbroken narrative. Leviticus doesn't start a new story—it continues the one already in progress.

2. The Law Points to Christ

The law was never meant to save Israel through their works. It was a "tutor to Christ" (Galatians 3:24), showing them their need for a perfect sacrifice and pointing forward to Jesus.

3. Sacrifices Were Placeholders

The sacrificial system established in Leviticus reminded Israel daily of their sin and their need for the coming Messiah who would make the once-for-all sacrifice.

4. You're Saved 100% by Works—Just Not Yours

We are saved entirely by grace through faith in Christ's works on our behalf. Our works can never bridge the gap between us and God.

5. You Can't Understand the Bible Without Torah

To properly interpret the rest of Scripture—including the Gospels and Epistles—we must understand the foundation laid in the first five books.

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Story

- 1. How does viewing the Bible as one continuous story rather than a collection of separate books change the way you approach reading Scripture?**
- 2. The session mentioned that when your children ask "Why do we do these things?" you tell them the story. How well could you tell the story of Scripture from Genesis to Christ? What gaps exist in your understanding?**
- 3. Read Deuteronomy 6:20-25. How does this passage emphasize the importance of connecting God's commands to His story of redemption?**

The Law and Christ

- 4. Before this session, how did you view the book of Leviticus? Has your perspective changed? How?**
- 5. Read Galatians 3:23-25. How does Paul describe the purpose of the law? What does it mean that the law was our "tutor" or "guardian" until Christ came?**
- 6. The session stated that the sacrificial system was meant to show Israel that "their works were never good enough." How does this challenge modern ideas about earning God's favor through good behavior?**

Sacrifices and Substitution

- 7. Read Genesis 3:21. This is the first sacrifice in Scripture—God providing animal skins to cover Adam and Eve's nakedness. How does this establish the pattern for all future sacrifices?**
- 8. Why was Abel's sacrifice acceptable but Cain's was not (Genesis 4:3-5)?**

9. The "fat portions" in Leviticus were reserved for God and symbolized the coming firstborn Son. Read 1 Samuel 2:12-17. What was Eli's sons' sin, and what does their disregard for the fat portions reveal about their hearts?

Application to Our Lives

10. The session emphasized that we are "saved 100% by works—just not yours." How does this truth combat both legalism (trying to earn salvation) and license (thinking grace means we can live however we want)?
11. How does understanding the sacrificial system help you better appreciate what Christ accomplished on the cross?
12. Dr Klingler confessed, "I look in the mirror and I go, 'Yep, another day with the idiot.'" How does honest acknowledgment of our sinfulness drive us to depend on Christ rather than ourselves?

Reflection Questions for Personal Quiet Time

- In what areas of my life am I still trying to earn God's favor through my own works?
- How does the continuous story of Scripture increase my confidence in God's faithfulness to keep His promises?
- What would change in my daily life if I truly believed I am saved 100% by Christ's works and 0% by my own?

Prayer Prompts

Praise: Thank God that He provided the perfect sacrifice in Jesus Christ

Confession: Confess areas where you've relied on your own goodness rather than Christ's finished work

Thanksgiving: Express gratitude that the entire Bible tells one story of God's redemption

Supplication: Ask God to give you a hunger to understand His Word from Genesis to Revelation and to see Christ throughout

Closing Thought

"You're saved 100% by works, just not yours. It's the opposite way to say you're saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone."

The entire biblical story—including the seemingly tedious parts of Leviticus—exists to show us our desperate need for a Savior and to point us to the One who perfectly fulfilled every requirement on our behalf. May we never tire of this greatest story ever told.

Recommended Resources

- *The Mission of God* by Christopher J.H. Wright
- *The Whole Christ* by Sinclair Ferguson
- *According to Plan* by Graeme Goldsworthy