

*Lesson 1*

## **Be Holy as God is Holy**

**Theme:** Holiness—Being holy by loving and obeying God



### **Sunday Morning Lesson**

**Pre-Class Activity:** For younger students: *Trace Me, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 3  
For older students: *Word Trace, Be Holy! Book 2*, page 3

**Bible Facts:** Take Time for Bible Facts from page 9 of this Guide

**Memory Verse:** Write the new Memory Verse on sentence strips and insert them in the pocket chart. The teacher introduces the new Memory Verse by reading it once from the Bible as the students listen. Have the students who can do so find the Memory Verse in their classroom Bibles. Help younger students find it. Read it aloud together from the Bibles. Using the strips in pocket chart, talk briefly about the meaning of the Memory Verse, discussing Who, What, When, and Why.

### **Prayer**

### **Lesson of the Day**

### **Ideas for Telling the Story**

1. For non-reading students, read Leviticus 20:26. Have reading students use the classroom Bibles to find and mark Leviticus 20:26. Have students turn through the pages of Leviticus in the Bibles and notice the chapter headings. You will see that Leviticus is about sacrifices and priests which God gave to His people to help them be holy. Have students open the Bibles to Leviticus 20:26 and read the verse together. From this verse ask them what “holy” means — to be set apart to God.
2. Ask the students to take the classroom Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting. Have a student point out on a map where Israel was during the events of the book of Leviticus — at Mount Sinai.
4. Further establish the setting by asking a student to use a telescoping pointer, such as a toy light saber, to point out on the time line when today’s lesson events took place.

5. Create scenes about being holy. The primary scene will be Israel being holy in their new land. Show the land on a map. Have several different maps, and ask the students to find Canaan on each one. Read Leviticus 18:1-4. The people of Israel must not do what the people of Canaan did. They must be holy by following God's laws. This will make them holy or set apart for God. Have a doll for an idol. Have some children act out worshipping an idol. God says, "No, don't do that. Be My holy people."
6. A second scene to illustrate being holy is Moses at the burning bush. From the It's Bible Time Bag, pull out a graphic illustrating the story of Moses and the burning bush and a pair of sandals. You may want to provide a burning bush made from poster board. Tell the story of how God called Moses from the bush that burned but didn't burn up. Emphasize that when Moses approached, God told him He is the greatest, highest and best and must be respected in every way. Have students act out the scene with Moses and the burning bush. Students may take turns holding the poster board bush or wearing the sandals and being Moses. Talk about how Moses felt when he saw a talking bush that was on fire but did not burn up and talk about how he felt when a voice spoke to him from the bush. How would the students feel, or what would they do if they were in Moses' place?
7. A third scene to show being holy is from Isaiah 6:1-4. Describe God on the throne. Emphasize how God's long robe filled the Temple and how the building shook and filled the room with smoke. Talk about what the Seraphim did with their wings—with two they covered their eyes, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. Talk with the students about why they would cover their eyes when they were in the presence of God—because God is brilliant and glorious. Talk about why they would cover their feet—feet are usually on the ground and can be dirty. So they covered their feet to keep any dirt from being too close to a holy God. How many times did the Seraphim say that God is holy? Ask the students how they would feel if they were in that Temple.
8. Have the students move back to the desks and read again Leviticus 20:26. Ask them what it means to be holy as God is holy.
9. See page 63 for reinforcement questions.

**Things to Get or Do  
for Sunday Morning**

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## Lesson 1

**Be Holy as God is Holy**

**Theme:** Holiness—Being holy by loving and obeying God

**Wednesday Night Lesson**

**Pre-Class Activity:** For younger students: *Moses Learns to Be Holy, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 2  
For older students: *Moses Learns to Be Holy, Be Holy! Book 2*, page 2

**Bible Facts:** Take Time for Bible Facts from page 9 of this Guide

**Memory Verse:** The teacher and students read the Memory Verse aloud together from pocket chart. The teacher reads it a second time, having students say, “Stop!” when they hear an answer to Who, What, When, and Why in the Memory Verse.

**Prayer****Starter**

When your mother mops the kitchen floor, she doesn’t want anyone to walk on it while it is still wet. Until the floor dries, you might call it “holy ground.” If you start walking on the mopped floor, your mom will send you out. She might do this in a louder voice than usual. Can you hear her? “Don’t come in that way. Go back outside. Can’t you see I just mopped the floor?” You know it is dangerous to walk on Mom’s newly cleaned floor. You quickly back out of the kitchen and go some other way. The idea of being holy in Leviticus is something like this. God teaches His people about being holy as He is holy.

**Briefly Review the Lesson****Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story**

1. **Objective:** *Illustrate what it means to be set apart and how God’s people must be set apart for Him*

Prepare several groupings of pictures from magazines or clip art. Each group should have three to four pictures that are similar and one that obviously stands out as different. Show the pictures to the students, one grouping at a time. Have them “set apart” the picture from each group that does not belong by placing it away from the other pictures. Talk about ways that Christians are to be set apart from the world—ways they talk, ways they dress or attitudes they have. Make a list on the marker board of characteristics that make Christians different or set apart.



2. **Objective: Demonstrate how pleasing God means being what He wants us to be**

Bring three shirts of different colors and styles. Print words of kindness on three cards: “enjoy,” “welcome,” “share.” Print mean words on three cards: “angry,” “hate,” “ugly.” Draw various faces on other cards—smiles, frowns, anger, etc. Tell the students the following story:

*Mr. Golden is a famous man who has spent years planning the most magnificent amusement park in the world. And he is building it right here in our town! He is coming to your school to find certain students to give them lifetime passes to the park. Mr. Golden has made it known that he loves the color (insert one of the shirt colors you have brought). And he always wears a (insert the style of one of the shirts you have brought) shirt, because it is his favorite. He likes people to be kind to each other, and never use mean words or have bad attitudes.*

When you go to the assembly where Mr. Golden will speak, what will you wear, what words will you use, and how will you act? Let students talk about what shirt they would wear, what words they would use, and how they would act. The students then select the cards corresponding with the decisions they make. Ask why they made these choices. Guide the students to understand that pleasing Mr. Golden is most important. In order to please him, you must make choices to be what he wants you to be. Make application to our choosing to be what God wants us to be.

3. **Objective: To illustrate how God’s people must be set apart from others to be His holy people**

Fill a clear glass with water. Show the students the pure water and have them describe its characteristics. Then squeeze one drop of food coloring into the water. Let the students watch as the single drop of color spreads through the whole glass of water. Discuss why God wanted the Israelites to be pure, not like the Canaanites, and how just a small influence can spoil a whole nation. Talk about the fact that it was not bad to be a Canaanite. This simply meant that they lived in Canaan. What made the Canaanites bad was not *where* they lived but *how* they lived. They worshiped idols and did wicked things. God wanted His people to be set apart from the way the Canaanites lived and be holy as He is holy.

4. See page 63 for reinforcement questions.

**Things to Get or Do  
for Wednesday Night**

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