

Lesson 3

## Priests Working for the Lord

Theme: Obedience—Following God's commands carefully



### Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: For younger students: *What Takes Away Sin, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 8  
For older students: *All About Priests! Be Holy! Book 2*, page 7

Bible Facts: Take Time for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Reproduce a worksheet with blanks in the Memory Verse to be filled in by the students. A sample worksheet is found on page 65 of this Guide. After all students have completed the worksheet, read it aloud together.

### Prayer

### Lesson of the Day

#### Ideas for Telling the Story

1. For non-reading students, read Leviticus 8:23-24. Using the classroom Bibles, have reading students find and mark Leviticus 8:23-24.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Establish the setting of the lesson by asking a student to point to the place on the time line when today's events took place.
4. Further establish the setting by asking a student to show Israel's location on a map.
5. Talk about how God wants people to be His people and helps them. He gave sacrifices and priests to help people be holy.
6. Have two simple robes that fit students. Make one white and plain, and make the other blue and purple and nicer than the white one. Talk about how people dress in uniforms or other special clothes for certain work. Discuss how the priests dressed in different clothes to do different work. Have students put on the robes and talk about the different work of priests.

7. Either the teacher reads Leviticus 8:23-24, or have students read it aloud. Tell the story of how Moses got Aaron and his sons ready to be priests. Moses put blood on each man's right ear lobe, the thumb of his right hand, and the big toe of his right foot. Talk about how this "set apart" the men for their work—ears to listen to God, hands to do God's work, and feet to walk in God's way. For a demonstration, use a washable red marker or red sticky dots to put a dot on a student's right ear lobe, thumb, and big toe. Talk about how this sets apart these body parts to use in special ways to serve God.

8. Depending on the students' ages, talk about the priests' hard and dirty work to help people kill animals for sacrifices. Imagine you are an Old Testament priest working in the tabernacle. Think about the animals' blood on your clothes, the awful smell, and the hard work. Priests have to keep the fire at the altar burning all the time, constantly supplying wood so the fire will never go out. A worshiper comes to the tabernacle to make a burnt offering to the Lord. You meet the worshiper at the doorway of the tabernacle or tent of meeting. The worshiper himself lays his hand on the animal's head, then kills the animal.

Since the worshiper is giving a burnt offering, you sprinkle the animal's blood on the altar and arrange the animal's pieces over the fire, after washing some of them with water. You work to keep the fire burning. Once the animal is completely burned up, you put on undergarments and a linen robe to remove the animal's ashes from the fire and place them beside the altar. Once this is done, you change into other clothes to take the ashes outside the camp. Are you tired and dirty?

God chose men from the tribe of Levi and the family of Aaron to serve as priests for Israel. Priests' work was not easy. They had responsibilities in connection with all sacrifices. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest had special work to make sacrifices for himself, then for the people. At times, priests had the responsibility of giving instructions to Israel about the way and will of God.

☀ 9. Using the It's Bible Time Bag, use graphics and props to tell the story of Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu. You may make fire pans out of aluminum pie pans and a wooden dowel. Punch small holes in the sides of the pan across from each other. Insert the dowel through both holes and secure it with glue from a glue gun. For retelling and reteaching, have students use the graphics and props and tell the story again. Supplement or correct it as needed.

10. See page 63 for reinforcement questions.

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

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## Priests Working for the Lord

Theme: Obedience—Following God’s commands carefully

### Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity: For younger students: *God’s Way or Man’s Way, Be Holy! Book 1*, page 9  
For older students: *God’s Way Versus Man’s Way, Be Holy! Book 2*, page 8

Bible Facts: Take Time for Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Print the Memory Verse on paper using a relatively large font. Print a Memory Verse for each student. Cut up the words or phrases of the Memory Verse, and put the pieces in an envelope—one for each student. Have the students put the pieces together to form the Memory Verse. Another option is to provide construction paper and glue sticks and allow the students to glue the Memory Verse pieces on the construction paper in the correct order.

### Prayer

### Starter

Allyson was assigned a project for science class that was due two weeks later. The teacher passed out an instruction sheet about the project and went over the instructions in class. Allyson was excited about the project. She did some research on the Internet and decided her topic and plan. Allyson quickly read over the instructions and got to work. The instruction sheet said that the project must have a display board, equipment needed to demonstrate the topic, and a printed report about the experiment along with photographs. Allyson wanted to present her project in a video and decided not to prepare a display board. She really did not like using a computer, so Allyson wrote her report in her own handwriting. She thought line drawings would be better than photographs, so she put in several drawings. The day came when the project was due, and Allyson turned it in. Within a few days, she learned that she had made a “C” on the project. She was shocked and couldn’t understand why the teacher gave her such a low grade. The teacher explained to Allyson that her work was nice, but that she had not followed the directions. Sometimes people make a similar mistake with God’s instructions.

Briefly Review the Lesson

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

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## Ideas for Illustrating and Reinforcing the Story

### 1. *Objective: Reinforce the duties of a priest*



Create a matching game to teach and reinforce priests' duties. On index cards, write the priests' duties, putting each duty on two separate cards. On other cards, write some activities that are not priests' duties, but do not duplicate these cards. Arrange the cards face down on the floor or table, and let the students turn two over looking for a match. If they make a match, the student continues his or her play. If the cards do not match, turn them face down again and play passes to another player. When a "non-duty" card is turned over, the player loses his or her turn and that card is taken out of play. Play continues until all the cards are removed or matched.

The chart below features some examples of priests' activities you may print on cards and some activities that priests did not perform. Make two cards each of the priests' activities and one card each of the other activities.

Keep the altar fire going	Lead in special days of worship
Take care of the tabernacle	Clean up after sacrifice
Wear special clothing	Be a fireman and put out campfires
Help people be holy before God	Build playhouses for children
Offer sacrifices	Help people choose what clothes to wear
Teach the Law to the people	Bury the dead
Help people know clean from unclean	Organize sports teams

### 2. *Objective: Illustrate the concepts of "acceptable" and "unacceptable"*



On a marker board, make a table with three columns. In the header row write "Name" in the left column, "Acceptable" in the middle column, and "Unacceptable" in the right column. List each student's name under the heading in the left column. Give the students some printed instructions to accomplish a simple project in three minutes — color the picture using only blue, black, and red crayons; fold the paper in half; put the folded paper in a square box. All students do the project, each checking off the items listed as he completes them. Provide similar options. For example, along with red, blue, and black crayons, provide brick red, orange-red, sky blue, blue-green, and gray. Provide two containers, one round and one square. When all students have finished their project, take each folded paper out of the container and discuss whether it was done according to the instructions. On the marker board, put a check mark in the appropriate column beside each student's name — either "acceptable" or "unacceptable." Talk about this project and Nadab and Abihu's "strange fire." Lead students to talk about how we can be "acceptable" in worshiping God.

### 3. *Objective: Make application of all believers being priests today*

With older students, talk about Jesus as our High Priest and how all believers are priests today. Discuss how Christians have access to God and "offerings" that we make.

See page 63 for reinforcement questions.