

Take Time to Be Holy

Lesson 1

Be Holy as God is Holy

Theme: Holiness—Being holy by loving and obeying God

Memory Verse

“I am the Lord. I brought you up out of Egypt to be your God. So be holy, because I am holy.”

Leviticus 11:45

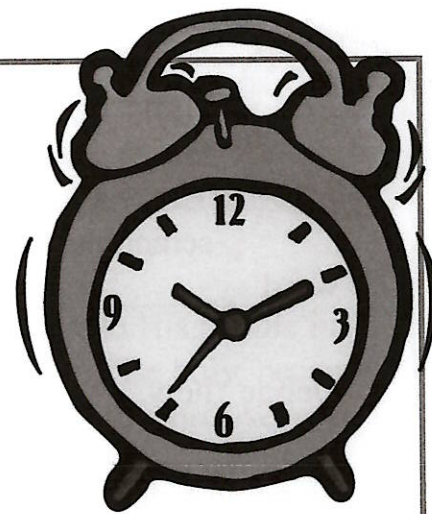
Daily Bible Readings

- 1 Exodus 19:1-6
- 2 Isaiah 6:1-5
- 3 Exodus 3:1-6
- 4 Leviticus 18:1-5, 24-30
- 5 Leviticus 20:22-26

Holy is a special and important word because it is a word in the Bible that describes God. One psalmist encouraged people to honor and worship God because “holy is the Lord our God.” Also, the book of Leviticus is about people being holy. Let’s learn what it means that God is holy and how people can be holy.

God is Holy

“Holy” means to be separate or different. God is holy. He is separate from people. He is pure, right, and good in every way. God is higher, greater and better than all people and all things. When God comes to a place, He makes the place holy. Do you remember when Moses saw the bush that burned but did not burn up? When Moses went near the bush, a voice spoke from the fire telling him not to get too close. God



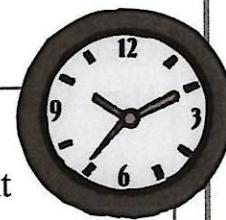
After this lesson you should be able to ...

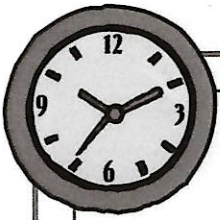
- Define “holy”
- Describe what “a holy nation” means
- Tell what happened to those who defiled the land by practicing evil

Exodus 19:1-6

To be “a kingdom of priests” meant that the people of Israel would a) help other people know and honor God, b) all wear white robes, c) live in the temple.

To be “a holy nation” meant that Israel would a) win all their battles, b) be God’s special people, c) never sin.





Isaiah 6:1-5

The word describing God that the seraphim said three times is the word _____.

Define "holy:"

Standing before a holy God, Isaiah became concerned about what?

was speaking from the bush and said to Moses, "Take off your sandals. The place you are standing on is holy ground." Because God was in the fire, the place was special. Moses needed to be careful and especially respectful.

One day the prophet Isaiah was in the temple in Jerusalem. Suddenly, Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a big and high throne. The whole place was shaking and filling with smoke. God was showing Himself to Isaiah as a

holy God. Seraphim (SER a feem), which are beings something like angels, were praising God saying, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord who rules over all." Isaiah was seeing a vision of a holy God. This made Isaiah concerned, because he knew he was not holy like God. But God helped Isaiah be holy.

Be Holy as God is Holy

People who are God's people must be holy. With a mighty hand, God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt and led them toward the Promised Land. God's great purpose for His people was for them to be "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." Being a kingdom of priests meant that the people of Israel were to help other people know and honor God. This is one way the nation would bless the whole world, as God promised to Abraham.

Being a holy nation meant the nation of Israel was to be God's special people. As Moses later explained to Israel, "You are a holy nation. God has set you apart for himself... He chose you out of all of the nations on the face of the earth to be his people." God wanted His people to be higher, greater, and better because they knew and followed Him. God not only wanted His people to be holy, He also helped them be holy.

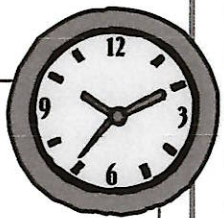
God Helps His People Be Holy

The land God was giving Israel had been defiled by those who lived in it before the Israelites. "Defile" mean to pollute or make dirty. People who first lived in Canaan worshiped other gods and did evil, and this polluted the land and made it unholy. God made the people who defiled the land leave and

Exodus 3:1-6

What was unusual about the bush Moses saw that was burning with fire?

Why was Moses to take off his sandals when he came near the burning bush?





Leviticus 18:1-5, 24-30

Write an *H* for holy or a *U* for unholy in the spaces below:

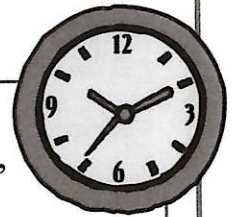
- behave like the Egyptians
- keep God's laws
- keep God's judgments
- behave like the Canaanites
- defile themselves

What did God do to the people who lived in the land before the Israelites and defiled the land with their evil practices?

gave the land to Israel. But the people of Israel had to learn to be holy and not defile the land as others had, and God taught them how.

God's great message to His people in the book of Leviticus is, "Be holy, because I am holy." God says these words several times in the book. The book of Leviticus taught the people of Israel how to offer sacrifices. It also taught them about priests, who would help people make sacrifices that pleased God. In Leviticus, God also gave instructions about things being clean and unclean. In all these ways, God was helping His people be holy.

God wants His people today to be holy. He gave His Son Jesus to save people from sin and help them be holy. He gave the Bible to show His people how to be holy. Now, God's people are not from just one special nation. His holy people today are those who follow His Son.

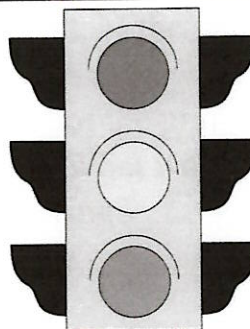


Leviticus 20:22-26

To "make a distinction between" something clean and something unclean means a) to see how they are the same, b) to see how they are different.

To practice making a distinction, write two differences between God and idols.

I come to worship God because I love Him.

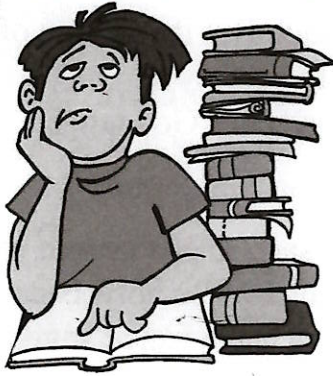


Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red—not often

Yellow—sometimes

Green—all the time



Think About It...

If you get an allowance or money for doing chores around the house, should you offer some of that money to God? Why or why not?

Take Time for Bible Facts

Write the first letter of each book of the Bible.



What books of the Old Testament tell about the United and Divided Kingdoms and about Israel losing the Promised Land?

On a map inside the back cover, label the major regions of Canaan: Negev, Hill Country, Coastal Plain, Transjordan.