

BE Holy  
Leviticus 19:1-37

### Warm Up

Who was your idol as a kid/teenager? Who did you want to be like? What was it about them that you wanted to emulate?

### Background and context

Leviticus is one of those books that often gets overlooked. We have the exciting stories in Genesis and Exodus, and then we come to this book of rules and instructions about sacrifices; lots of dos and don'ts. At first glance it looks dull. However, when we begin to look for Jesus in the book, it comes alive. We can make connections between the Old Testament laws and Jesus. God calls us to be holy as He is holy. It is a repeated phrase in the book. But what does this mean and how do we

### Thinking it through: Main discussion/activity

**READ Leviticus 19:1-37.** What are the surprising things in the passage? What is new? What don't you really understand?

1. In the big picture of the Bible story, this chapter about holiness comes after God has rescued His people. Why is this important? How does **Romans 5:8** link to salvation then holiness?
2. What does it mean when God says "I am holy"? How would you describe God's holiness to a non believer?
3. God calls us to be holy because He is holy. What does holiness look like in Leviticus 19?
4. Is holiness more than just obedience to a list of do's and don'ts?
5. Is there a difference between the Holiness described in Leviticus 19 and the way Jesus calls us to be holy in **Matthew 5-7**? If so, what is the difference?
6. **Read v 20-22.** A sacrifice is required to atone for sin. How does this equate with New Testament teaching? What is the difference between the two sacrifices?
7. **Read v5-8.** A sacrifice is needed to come into God's presence. How has Jesus replaced this? What is the difference between being in God's presence in Leviticus and for us today?
8. Are all the laws in Leviticus 19 applicable to us today if we want to develop holiness?

### Discipleship and Application

9. Holiness means being **set apart for God**. How do we do this in a world that often does not acknowledge God.? Read **Romans 12:2** for help. What might we need to sacrifice in order to develop holiness?

### Try to leave 15-20 mins to talk about prayer needs of the group and to pray.

There are many creative ways of praying together: writing prayers, using candles as a focus, reading prayers or praying for each other in pairs.