

Sermon Discussion Guide And He Called - Tim Knipp 10-1-2023

Note from the Question Writer:

Leviticus has been a challenging book for many of us to engage with. Our hope is to help equip you with questions and some resources to help you engage with this incredible book! Here are a couple of places to start:

- 1. <u>Bible Project Leviticus Overview Video</u>- a helpful video that will give you a good overview of the book. Some of their theme videos will also be helpful: <u>Holiness</u> (for this week)
- 2. <u>Bible Project Leviticus Podcast</u>- if you want to do a deeper dive into the book, this is a helpful series that will highlight some key points in the book
- 3. <u>Torah Tuesday with Carmen Imes</u>- another fun series that will give you some of the overview of Leviticus. Her first video does a great job of situating Leviticus within the chiastic structure of the Torah¹

One of the things that Tim pointed out to us in the sermon is the איז (*Wayyiqra*) which starts off the book by connecting it to the preceding books. What then are some of the things we should hold in mind as we move through Leviticus? For this set of questions there are two pieces that would be helpful to highlight: 1. read Exodus 40:34-35, Leviticus 1:1, and Numbers 1:1 and notice the prepositional differences. What does this tell you about the heart of God? Do you see the prepositional theme in Exodus 19: 3,20? This ought to orient our reading of Leviticus. Leviticus in all its complexity at its center (literally) is about moving humanity closer to Him. 2. The theme of recreation/rehabilitation is clearly emphasized in this book (in connection with the previous). This is highlighted through two words עַרַד ל עַרַד ל (Banah- to build & Avad- to work/serve/worship) The Israelites go from building for and serving Pharaoh who calls them lazy to building for and worshiping God who invites them to rest. Under the many years under Pharaoh they need to learn what the God who saves is like and what it is like to live as a community in relationship with Him. It is a reorientation of serving both in the whom and the how.

¹ She pulls from Michael Morales' book *Who Shall Ascend the Mountain of the Lord*?



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Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.
- As you look back on this summer, what is something that you will treasure from it?
- What has been your experience of Leviticus? What are some of your hopes coming into this series?

Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:
- Read Exodus 40:34-35, Leviticus 1:1, and Numbers 1:1. What does this tell you about the heart of God?
- Watch the <u>Bible Project Leviticus Overview Video.</u> What stood out to you from the video?
- What can we take with us as we continue our study through Leviticus?
- Read Exodus 5:15-18. How is God different from this?
- Where do you see the heart of Leviticus in Jesus' life?

Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- What do you imagine God's desire to draw humanity close to him looks like today?
- What might that rehabilitating work look like on a personal, systemic, and spiritual level?
- What does it look like to hold onto these as the character of God in the midst of the chaos of life?



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Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
- Where are areas in your life where you would like to see the rehabilitating work of God? What might that look like for you?
- Where are areas in your life where God might be calling you to come closer?
- What do you think this will look like in our small group?

Time of Prayer