

GOD IN SEARCH OF
LEVITICUS

LEVITICUS, WEEK 3
“GUILT, SIN, AND SHAME”

SPEAKER: BRAD WILLIAMS
DATE: FEB. 21, 2021

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to help lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage(s) and the speaker's message. They can help you understand and apply the teaching.

BIBLICAL TEXT(S) + MESSAGE SUMMARY:
LEVITICUS 4:1-29, 5:14-16, 6:1-5, MATTHEW 5:23-24, 26, JOHN 19:30, AND ROMANS 7:15-19

Leviticus shows us how this wholly different God, who names Himself Yahweh, moves toward his people, the Israelites. They have just been freed after hundreds of years of captivity in Egypt, and now they must become a nation in their own right—living in a wholly integrated harmony with Him and one another. However the Israelites were accustomed to Egyptian ways, and used to interacting with God through sacrifice, so Yahweh uses that language, if you will, to speak to them about who he is. Chapters four and five stipulate the sacrifices required to cleanse them of guilt and shame when they sin. Pastor Brad explains that the sacrifices Yahweh requires actually point to a greater sacrifice, His Son on the Cross. They also point to a day when God's people will live in peace with each other and with him!

LEAN IN: *These are icebreakers and warm ups, mostly to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. Were you ever caught in a lie when you were growing up? What did your parents or teacher catch you doing?
2. What is a guilty pleasure of yours that you've enjoyed lately? :-)
3. What has been the high and low of your last week?
4. What do you remember most about the service or sermon?

LOOK DOWN: *These are questions about the Bible passage(s) and observations about what's been read. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. What type of sin is Moses talking with God about in Levi 4: 1-2?
What is an example of that type of sin?
2. What is Paul explaining when he talks about an internal struggle in Romans 7: 15-19?
3. Who is Leviticus 4 written to? Why is this significant?
4. Brad says that Leviticus 4 and 5 explain that we don't have to hide from God. How does he reach that conclusion, an way is that important to us?

LOOK OUT: *These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. How does our culture deal with shame? What does our society say is shameful?

CONTINUED:

2. What makes people feel free in 2021? Where are people looking for personal autonomy?
3. Why do you think people often hide the bad things about themselves? What is at the root of that desire?
4. We don't live in a place where animal sacrifices are normal. However, what kinds of sacrifices do we interact with on a daily basis in our culture? What do they cost us and what do we get in return?

LOOK IN: *These are questions that help you consider how to apply the teaching personally. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. What is your understanding of shame? Do you think shame is justified in the life of a Christian? Why or why not?
2. What leads you to personal feelings of freedom in your life?
3. When you make a foolish decision, do you want to hide it from the people around you? What causes that in your heart?
4. What have you had to sacrifice in your life this week?
5. What do you think a whole, good, and peaceful relationship with God and others costs you? What do you need to make that happen and how do you feel about it?

LIVE IT OUT: *These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life. Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. Brad showed us that there is no need for Christians to live a life defined by shame, in fact, we were made for the opposite! What beliefs and/or practices does this truth change for you?
2. Who can you share this freeing news with in the coming week? How can you help encourage people to live lives impacted by the freedom Jesus offers?