

GOD IN SEARCH OF

## LEVITICUS

**LEVITICUS, WEEK 17**  
**"GO YOUR OWN WAY, PT. 2"**  
**SPEAKER:**  
**LANE GREENLEAF-PEREZ**  
**DATE: MAY 30, 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 26; PSALM 14:1; JOHN 11:45-48: EXODUS 8:16-19:  
MATTHEW 19:16-22; AND JOHN 15:5-11**

Last week's message focused on the promises of prosperity and success that God made to Israel if they would follow his commands and remain obedient to Him. This week, Pastor Lane examines the promises of punishment and devastation that God made to Israel if they failed to be faithful to him. While God ensures the Israelites that there will be consequences for their disobedience, he also says from the start that he will remain faithful to his promises even if they fail. All they need to do is return to him.

While these exact promises may not apply to us personally or as a nation, Pastor Lane demonstrates how these passages apply to our lives today. God is just as faithful to us in the midst of our unfaithfulness as He was to Israel. He also shows that, like with the nation of Israel, God wants us to obey him, not out of fear of consequences or punishment, but because we love 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. What is your favorite treat, junk food, or guilty pleasure?
2. If someone wants you to do something, what is the best way to motivate you? What words, attitudes, or actions make you least likely to comply with a request?
3. What is your love language? What makes you feel most appreciated and valued?
4. What was your high/low for this past week (or since group last met)? What was the best thing that happened and the worst thing that happened?

**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 are some of the punishments that God says will happen in response to Israel's disobedience in Lev 26:14-22? Do you think these are justified? Why or why not?
2. Read Lev 26:40-45. What does the Bible say would cause God to do a 180 degree turn in his treatment of Israel? What does God say will happen instead? What does this show about the nature of the Father?
3. What does Revelation 21:2-8 tell us about the restoration of creation at the end of the age? What does this tell us about God's desires and plans for humanity and the world? How might this relate with Leviticus 26?

**CONTINUED:**

4. Read John 11:45-48, Exodus 8:16-19, and Matthew 19:16-22. What do these stories have in common? In what ways do the characters in these stories react to God in a similar way? How are their reactions different? How might their reactions relate to Leviticus 26?
5. According to John 15:5-11, what is supposed to be our motivation for obeying God? How does this relate to the other passages we've read and this week's sermon?

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

1. From these passages and this sermon, why do you think God would punish Israel, his chosen people? What does this reveal about the character of the Father?
2. What are ways in which "going our own way" or doing things that God warns us not to do can get us into trouble? How have you seen this play out in our world?
3. In Leviticus 26, God promises that even if Israel is unfaithful to his covenant with them, he will remain faithful. What does this reveal about the character of God? How have you seen this same principle play out in during our time, the lives of people you know, or historical/biblical characters?
4. Pastor Lane talked about how humanity's fall into sin came with a rejection of God's path and provision. It's a theme that plays out over and over in human history. Satan convinces us we could do better for ourselves than God would ever do for us. What are some examples of people falling for this lie in the Bible, in history, or in our world today?
5. What are some unhealthy or non-biblical reasons that people have for obeying God? Based on this sermon and these passages, how would you describe what our motivation for obedience should be in your own words?

**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. Can you think of examples in your own life where God has disciplined you through the consequences of your actions? What did you learn from this experience? How did this experience impact your view of God's character?
2. Are there any places in your life currently where you are "going your own way"? What might it look like for you to submit these areas in obedience to God?
3. How has God been faithful to you, even when you've been unfaithful or disobedient? What have these experiences taught you about God? How have they impacted your walk with Him?
4. In what areas of your life are you most likely to think you know better or could do better than God? How have these passages/this sermon challenged or encouraged you?

**CONTINUED:**

5. In your current season of life, what is your main motivation for obeying God (or do you have one)? How does that line up with the motivation for obedience that Jesus lays out for us in John 15 and John 14:15+21?

**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. If you are having a hard time trusting that God's ways are best in an area of your life (or in all areas of your life), spend some time this week asking God that he would help you learn to trust him and his goodness. Reach out to a friend, family member, or someone in your small group and ask them to pray for you too.
2. Each day this week, spend some time thanking God for his unconditional love and faithfulness by writing prayers of gratitude, engaging in worship through song, or some other way.
3. If your motivation for obeying God is something other than love of Him, what's one action you can take this week to try to make love your primary motivator?