

Clean & Unclean

Leviticus 11 - 15

DISCUSSION RESOURCE FOR LIFE GROUPS

Reading the text – Lev 11 - 15

In your group, divide into pairs and then decide how best to have the whole group read the whole text together. (Be as creative OR simple as you want to be so long as the text is read and people have time to appreciate the flow and focus of each section)

Remain in pairs and spend time considering the five chapters detailed in the reading. As you discuss with your partner the details of the 'Clean & Unclean' laws, consider:

- Creating an outline of the laws/requirements within one (or more) of the chapters.
- The relationship of chapters 8-10 to 11-15.
- Consider some of the specific detail that grabs your attention and discuss potential meaning
- Consider what makes these laws of such importance to Israel.
- Discuss how some of these laws might have been relevant to Israel.

NOW – gather as a group and share your key insights.

GOD'S DESIRE FOR HIS PEOPLE

God's desire is for his people to be holy. But before they can be made holy, they first need to be able to approach God. There is a certain way for God's people to approach God, and they are required to first be clean within their everyday life, so that then they can be made holy. God links elements of Israel's everyday life to remind his people that wholeness/completeness can be found only within him.

Suggest that individuals consider – Mark 5:24-34, 7:12-23; Acts 10:9-22 and then share thoughts and ideas about how the New Testament understands and interprets Old Testament 'Clean & Unclean' laws.

- Share your thoughts on how the Pharisees and other Jews interpret these laws.
- Share your thoughts on how Jesus interprets these laws.
- What difference does the two understandings make?

From understanding to application:

Read Hebrews 10:19-39 and...

1. Consider what it means for us to have been cleansed by the blood of Christ?
2. How then might this passage give further understanding to the other passages above?
3. How would you describe the relationship between being cleansed by Christ, and the exhortation to persevere and rid our lives of sin?

CONCLUSION

- Share insights or promptings as to what this might mean for you as you worship our Holy God.
- Spend some time as a group (or smaller groups) praying through what you have discussed tonight, and any key reflections/insights that may have arisen.