



Authorised Mess - Leviticus

Your details

Name: Lucy Moore

Church: St Wilfrid's Messy Church, Cowplain, Hampshire, UK

Bible book	Leviticus
Theme of session	Wholly Holy What does holy mean? Why would we want to be holy? How can we live holy lives?
Notes	Haven't trialled this yet. Intend to do it in Nov 2010

Session details

Categories of activities to get a mix	Activity name	Instructions	Resources needed	Reason for doing this activity
Younger participants	Skin diseases	Make a fake wound for a member of your family's arm or leg	Fake wound kits or playdough in yellow, red and green	Fun; skin diseases mentioned in chaps 13-14
Older participants	Spot the difference	Have some Spot the Difference puzzles in varying degrees of difficulty to do together	Puzzles from magazines, books etc	Holy means different, set apart. God wants his people to lead the best lives possible. Talk about how your life is different because of what you believe.
Girls	Make an ephod	Find a picture of a priestly ephod. Make your own	Aluminium foil, card, fake jewels, string or cord to	Priests were very special and were the only ones



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		version with foil stretched over card and fake jewels	hang it on	who could offer sacrifices in OT times. Now, thanks to Jesus, we're all priests, even if we don't have special clothes
Boys	Keep the fire burning	Challenge the participants to keep the fire burning, but only putting one thing on at a time. Have a selection of things to burn. (If appropriate, have some lamb pieces to burn, but only if your vegetarians won't be upset) What do the different things burning smell like?	Safe way of making a small fire; Wood, lamb pieces (optional), paper, matches, lots of supervision	Lev 6:12 tells the priests to keep the fire burning and not to let it go out. Talk about burnt offerings: how costly the sacrifices would be / how people would bring the best they could and give it up. Talk about Jesus giving up his life.
Word-based	Holey Holy Hanging sock	Cut holes in a sock and stick or sew patches on the inside to show through the holes with words you associate with holy. This could be done with a real sock (harder but more fun) or a paper sock (easier). Add a hook to hang it up by	Old socks or paper cut-out socks, words already written on small pieces of white cloth or paper: holy, different, set apart, special, love, a hook (paperclip?)	A chance to talk about what the word 'holy' means.
Food-based	Sunday Sundaes	Label the ingredients with names like 'time with family' 'time with God'	Jelly in different flavours, icecream in different flavours, squirty cream,	Leviticus 23:3 shows us that God wants his people to be different and to



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		'church', 'prayer', 'enjoying nature', 'space', 'peace', 'recreation' and invite people to construct a sundae with the ingredients they think would make a Sunday into a holy day that they would enjoy	sprinkles, sauces, small bowls, spoons	show this by putting God first, especially one day a week
Explores global aspect of faith	Jubilee year game	Play any game that involves people winning tokens, but wind up the random-timer bomb from 'Pass the Bomb' (or invent your own random timer) and every time it goes off, redistribute the tokens equally and start again. Discuss the feelings this provokes	Random timer, game, cards or boardgame, tokens	Leviticus includes the idea of Jubilee in 25:8-55. It has been used in modern times as a campaign to forgive the debts of developing countries. It makes us re-evaluate what it means to 'win' and what a holy country might do.
Opens up great art	Lamb of God picture	Display the picture on a large piece of paper with a wide border. Invite people to look at the picture and write or draw around the edges how it makes them feel	Copy of <i>The Bound Lamb</i> by Francisco de Zurbaran, large piece of paper, felt tips	It may be a picture of a lamb or it may be a picture of Jesus offering himself as the final sacrifice that made all other sacrifices unnecessary
Quiet	Love your neighbour	On prepared sheets, put an olive oil thumbprint over the sections to show	Sheet with shapes containing the words worship, health, work,	Leviticus shows us that God wants every aspect of our lives to be holy /



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		you want those areas of your life to be holy	school, college, attitudes, justice, business, relationships; olive oil	different from those around us. Jesus would have known Lev 19:18
Really messy	Olive oil pouring	Put olive oil in jugs and pour it over each other's hands. Be lavish! Talk about how it feels / smells. What would it be like poured over your head? (May not be a good idea to encourage this) Talk about anointing and how it set people apart for God to use.	olive oil, jugs, a deep tray to pour over, funnel to re-use the oil, paper towels	Leviticus 20:7-8 tells God's people to consecrate themselves and be holy. The way they showed this inside decision was by an outside mark: anointing with oil

Celebration suggestion

Song: Come on and celebrate

Story: Act out with everyone the drama of the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:1-34) with people playing the parts of the priest, the scapegoat and the other goat. Given that one goat is killed and the other is loaded down with the sins of the people, you may like to have adults of the home team, prepared for their painful role, playing these parts.

'We are the people of God from many many years ago - long before God sent Jesus to earth. We live here in the desert in tents (you may have a pop up tent you could pop up at this point) and we're trying hard to be people set apart for God - a different people, a holy people. Do we want to be holy? (Encourage a 'yees!' Do we want to live life in the best way? (Yees!) Do we want to show everyone round us how much God loves them? (Yees!) Well God knows we're not very good at it! We all make mistakes and sometimes we do bad things on purpose, don't we? (Yees!) Oh dear.



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But he's given us a way out and on this Day of Atonement, this is what we do. The High Priest needs two goats.... here we are. Now this goat, I'm afraid the priest has to kill you, because this will wipe away all the bad things we've done and make us right with God. Sorry, goat. You're a sacrifice for all of us.

And let's get the other goat. We're not going to kill you. The high priest is going to tell God all the things we've done - it might take some time - and place his hands on this goat as if he's putting all those bad things on it, and now he's sending it off into the desert to take those bad things far away from us. It's a scapegoat. It's taking our wrongdoings away from us. There it goes! Good bye goat! Now there are no bad things left between us and God and we can be forgiven.

Until next year when we will need another two goats all over again.

My word, what a performance. Wouldn't it be wonderful if there was a way for all our bad things to be wiped away and taken away completely, once and for all? What a huge sacrifice that would have to be!

(Put up a picture of Dali's Christ of St John of the Cross)

After Jesus had lived and died on the cross and come back to life again, somebody wrote: Day after day every priest offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Jesus had offered his one sacrifice, he stopped. Why? Because by his one sacrifice he made us holy forever. (version of Hebrews 10:11-14)

Prayer sing 'Thank you Jesus'

Meal suggestion

Irish Stew or Lamb Kebabs

Faith at Home suggestion

Do something special one Sunday as a family - have a nice meal or a cake, or go for a walk, fly a kite, play on the Wii together...



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Primary School RE idea

KS1 - can't think of an idea

KS2 Use the 'Opens up great art' idea to introduce the exploration of 'sacrifice' or 'holiness'. Display the picture on the whiteboard and write around it as a class activity