LEVITICUS 7-12 WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

The chapters we covered this week primarily focused on the ordination of the priests and the call to orderly living. The priests represented the people to God and God to the people. In chapter 8, we see Aaron's appointment as Israel's first High Priest, who was the chief religious leader of the Israelites. Aaron's sons, and their descendants, would lead as priests as well and be set apart. A key moment in this section of Leviticus is in chapter 9. God has given them all these instructions for how the priests are to conduct themselves and operate within their duties.

Then, God shows that He accepts their sacrifices. Leviticus 9:23-24 says, "Moses and Aaron then went into the tent of meeting. When they came out, they blessed the people; and the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. Fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the fat portions on the altar. And when all the people saw it, they shouted for joy and fell facedown." However, as the story continues, Aaron's sons (Nadab and Abihu) are not careful to operate in the precise instructions that the Lord had given them. There are serious consequences for their disobedience. Nadab and Abihu offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, so fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them. The Lord then says, "Among those who approach me I will be proved holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored" (Leviticus 10:3). God will defend His holiness.

The fire that was unauthorized was worship, but it was worship that God had not commanded. They wanted to worship God in their own way, instead of the way that the Lord instructed. They did not regard the Lord as holy, and they faced the punishment for that. The next few chapters are a call to orderly living and ritual cleanliness. In the Bible, people were either pure or impure. Impurity was associated with death, and there were various things that could make a person impure. Some of these included eating specific animals, skin diseases, touching mold, touching a corpse, and more. The takeaway from all these chapters, and the entirety of the book of Leviticus, is that God is holy and the way that people approach a holy God matters.

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	 Priests represented the people to God!
KEY STORIES:	 Priests Ordained First Service First Failure Ritual Purity
KEY VERSE:	 Leviticus 9:23-24 "Moses and Aaron then went into the tent of meeting. When they came out, they blessed the people; and the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people. Fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the fat portions on the altar. And when all the people saw it, they shouted for joy and fell facedown." Leviticus 10:1-2 "Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, contrary to his command. So fire came out from the presence of the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord."
PEOPLE/ WORDS TO KNOW:	 Holy Special and set apart Priest Represented the people to God and God to the people

Reflection Questions

1.	What is a priest?
2.	Who was the first High Priest?
3.	Why did Aaron's sons get consumed by fire?
4.	What do these chapters show us about the character of God?