

# Lesson

## Engaging Introduction:

Welcome, everyone! Today, we're going to explore an interesting part of the Bible, and it's from the book of Leviticus, Chapter 20. Now, I know Leviticus might seem like a big and fancy word, but it's packed with important lessons that teach us how God wants us to live together in harmony and love. Think of it like a big instruction book for God's people. If we ever make a big Lego set, it's pretty hard without the instructions, right? We'd get pieces everywhere, and it might not turn out looking like what we wanted. Just like that, the Bible gives us instructions on how to build our lives the right way.

Leviticus 20 is special because it's filled with guidelines about what to do and what not to do. Imagine you're playing the game of soccer. You have rules to follow, like no picking the ball up with your hands if you are playing on the field as everyone else. These rules help keep the game fair and fun for everyone. In the same way, the rules in Leviticus help keep life fair and safe. They're there to guide us in treating each other kindly, showing respect, and loving others.

Let's journey into these teachings and understand how we can live the way God wants us to, making our lives more like a beautiful picture God wants us to paint. Are you ready? Let's dive in!

## Main Teaching Points:

### 1. Understanding God's Rules:

God gave the Israelites, His people, a set of rules because He loves them and wants what's best for them. Much like your parents set bedtime rules to ensure you get enough sleep, God set rules to ensure His people were safe and happy. He wanted them to be different from people who didn't follow His ways. So, He provided them guidelines for living. In Leviticus 20, we find various instructions that might seem a bit strange or strict today, but back then, they were important for building a fair and safe community where everyone could feel loved and respected.

### 2. Respect for God and Others:

One of the key lessons in Leviticus 20 is about the importance of respect. God wanted His people to understand the importance of respecting Him and each other. Respecting God meant not worshiping other gods or doing things that dishonored Him. It's kind of like how you might show respect by listening to your teacher's instructions in class. Just as listening helps the class run smoothly, respecting God and His rules helped the Israelites live peacefully together.

### 3. Consequences of Actions:

Leviticus 20 also talks about the consequences of not following God's rules. Now, consequences might sound like a big word, but think of it this way: if you don't water a plant, it won't grow nicely because it needed something to be healthy. Similarly, God's people had to follow His rules to have a strong, happy community. Disobeying had consequences, just like when you might lose TV time if you don't finish your homework. These consequences were there to remind people of the importance of following God's instructions closely and living a life that helps others.

### 4. Loving Your Neighbor:

A central theme in the teachings is loving and caring for your neighbors. God detailed how to treat one another with kindness and fairness. Think about when you play on the playground. It's important to share, take turns on the swings, and make sure everyone's included in the game, right? In the same way, these rules helped the Israelites learn to treat their friends and neighbors with love and respect. God wanted them to look out for each other, ensuring everyone felt valued and safe.

#### 5. Holiness and Being Different:

One of the powerful messages is about being holy, which means being set apart in a special way for God. He wanted His people to act differently from those around them who didn't know Him. It's like when you work extra hard at school to get a gold star. Being holy was like getting a gold star from God. They were supposed to stand out with their kindness, love, and respect just like a shining star in the sky.

#### Transition to Personal Application for Students:

Now that we've learned about some of the important teachings from Leviticus 20, you might be wondering, "How do these teachings apply to my life today?" Let's see how.

#### Personal Application for Elementary Students:

Even though these rules were given a long time ago, we can still learn so much from them today. Imagine if we all lived by these principles. How much nicer would our world be? Just like how everyone in a game plays a part, we all play parts in making our communities kind and respectful places.

First, think about how you can show respect to those around you. You can do this in small ways, like listening when someone else is speaking or saying 'please' and 'thank you.' This is a way of showing others you care, just like God instructed His people to do.

Next, let's consider the importance of loving our neighbors. This doesn't mean just the people who live next door but everyone you meet. Maybe you can invite a new student to sit with you at lunch or help a friend who falls on the playground. God wants us to befriend and help others, spreading kindness wherever we go.

Also, consider what it means to be set apart, or holy. Maybe there are moments when everyone else wants to do something you know isn't right, like telling a lie. By standing up for what you know is right, you're being like that shining star, guiding others by your good example.

Finally, remember that making good choices is important. If you make a mistake, it's okay! God knows none of us are perfect and He loves us anyway. What matters is learning from those mistakes and trying to do better next time. And guess what? God is always there to help you make better choices.

#### Transition to Interactive Discussion Questions:

Now let's discuss some questions together that will help us think more deeply about these lessons. Ready? Let's get started!

#### Interactive Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think God gave rules to His people?

This question helps students understand the importance of having guidelines in life. Express that rules are like fences that keep us safe, so we don't stray into dangerous places. Draw comparisons to the rules at home or school which are in place to keep everyone safe and happy.

2. Can you think of a time when you felt loved or respected? How did that make you feel?

This encourages children to share personal experiences, helping them identify how actions and words impact feelings. Explain that just like we feel good when treated well, others feel the same when we treat them kindly.

3. How can being fair make a game or activity more fun for everyone involved?

Discuss scenarios like playing a board game fairly and how it brings joy to everyone. Convey that God's rules promote fairness, ensuring everyone is treated equally and with kindness, making life more joyful for all.

4. What does it mean to you to love your neighbor today?

Engage students to think creatively about ways to show love and kindness to others daily. Offer simple ideas like helping classmates, sharing, or including others in activities. Reinforce the idea that love is shown through actions, even in small gestures.

5. What are some ways we can ask God for help in making good choices?

Guide students to thoughtful practices such as prayer or talking to a trusted adult. Explain that asking for guidance is like checking a map when we aren't sure of the way; it's always okay to seek help.

Wrap-Up:

Encourage students to keep these lessons in mind as they go through their week. Just like God's people in the Bible were learning to live in a way that made Him proud, we can do the same today. Remind them that every small act of kindness helps paint the beautiful picture God wants for us.

Thank you for joining the lesson today, and remember, you can always talk to God and ask for help whenever you need it!