



SDG Discussion Guide

Leviticus 11-15

February 4, 2018

For starters:

What can you remember a parent or someone saying when you were younger about foods that were good, or not good, for you to eat?

By whatever definition, which restaurant in your area would you classify as a "clean" establishment? Or have you eaten in an "unclean" restaurant-- what was your experience?

With whom do you find it easier to talk more openly: Your physician or your pastor? Why do you think this is?

Interaction with the text: (The following questions are meant to provide points of further interaction with the respective sermon text. Feel free to forward the questions to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find these questions in print on that Sunday.)

Pray and ask God to speak to your group through the discussion on Leviticus.

1. Leviticus has been made up of rules for restoring a right relationship with God. How does chapter 11 develop that theme? What added purpose and incentives to holiness does God give the people here (vv 43-45)?
2. In Daniel 1, we see where strict adherence to such dietary laws help strengthen God's people and establish his purpose. How might God's cause be better served today by following dietary food laws in a self-indulgent culture?
3. However, in Acts 10:9-23, the regulations concerning clean and unclean animals are apparently lifted. Why do you think this is? In what sense would the removal of these laws help spread the Gospel?
4. Who or what has the most say about the food you eat: a) Online ads? b) Your social network? c) Your family? c) Your Physician? d) Your sweet tooth? What do any of these have to say about what is "clean" or "unclean" for you?
5. In chapter 13, what do preliminary symptoms ("white spots") of these various skin diseases (leprosy, rashes, boils, burns, sores) have to do with religious defilement? How does the point compare to the treatment of the sick by Jesus (see Matt 8:1-4)? Why do you think these differences exist?
6. In what ways does maintaining good health promote your spiritual vitality?
7. Do you ever feel unworthy before God? What provision has God made for you to know you are, in fact, worthy? What can you do to remind yourself about these provisions the next time you feel "unclean"?
8. Jesus often healed people miraculously with human means, including the instruction to "go and wash" (see Jn 9:7). In this regard, what "baths" has Christ provided for your healing?

Spend time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you to pray. Ask God to continue to open your hearts and minds to his word through Leviticus. Ask him to continue to speak to you about "holiness." Ask him also to continue to speak to you about "worthiness"-- *your worth*. Spend time in silence listening for God. Go forth this week continuing to listen... and to act as you are so led.