

Children's Ministry

1st-2nd Grade

Leviticus 11:1-47

March 22nd, 2009

Lesson Plan:

Main Point: God calls us to be different.

Basic Idea: Our difference is found in our devotion to Jesus.

How we get there: Laws of cleanliness and uncleanness were established to make the Israelites a separate people. God's desire is that our difference would be seen now in our devotion to Jesus Christ.

Examine John 17:15-19

1. Does Jesus want God to take us out of the world?
2. How does Jesus want us to be protected?
3. What does it mean to be "set apart?"
4. What is it which sets us apart to God?

Explain to the children that this passage is a prayer from Jesus just before He faces His betrayal, false trial and crucifixion. As He is praying for the disciples (and for us, v 20), He does not pray that God remove them from the earth, but that God would protect us from sin and temptation from the devil. He also prays that God would set apart the disciples from the world. This does not mean they would look different from the outside, or not make contact with non-Christians, but that they would be set apart and devoted to God. They will be a powerful influence by being different from the world!

Use Illustration (see below)

In the same way that ice can have a tremendous impact on the water, we as Christians can impact people around us. The ice cannot cool the water unless it is in the water. However, once the ice is left in the glass, it will eventually melt and become the same temperature as the water. As Jesus points out in this passage, we must call out to God and obey the Word of God if we want to remain different from the world. This difference will allow us to point people to Jesus.

Illustration: Water and Ice

Allow the kids to feel the outside of the glass of "room temperature" water. (You do not want them sticking their hands in the water!) Ask them how they could make the water colder. Then allow them to feel the bag of ice. Ask them what they believe will happen when the ice is added to the water. What would happen if the ice is left in the bag in the room. Next, ask the kids if the water will stay cool forever. What will eventually happen to the ice? (Continue with lesson above.)

Ask the kids:

1. Why are we tempted to not look different from others?
2. Can people tell that I am different because of a love for Jesus?

"Nailing It" John 1:3-4—"In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it." Christ is perfectly righteous, just like the Father. Therefore, He could be the perfect sacrifice for us. His righteousness in the midst of our sin cause Him to be a great Light. He calls us now to be that light to the world!

