Sermon Discussion Guide

Leviticus 12-15 | Kevin DeYoung

"The Lord who Makes us Clean" Sunday Morning, April 2, 2023

Big Idea: "Do you know that you are unclean? And do you believe that Jesus can make you well?"

- 1. **Holiness (1)**: "Leviticus is about God living in plush, pristine, white, new carpet; and all of us having muddy, filthy boots." If an unbelieving friend asked you to help them understand God's *holiness*, how would you respond? What are some helpful illustrations for explaining?
- 2. Holiness (2): The holiness of God is not a popular subject in many churches today. What are some visible effects of a church that downplays the reality of God's *holiness*? (Be specific).
- 3. **Stigmas (1)**: "It's always a challenge in the church to stigmatize certain behavior without wanting to stigmatize and ostracize the people." What are some cultural stigmas that are helpful? What are some stigmas that are unhelpful?
- 4. Stigmas (2): Why is it a bad idea to try and eliminate all stigmas from our culture?¹
- 5. **Prayer**: Read Ps.139:23-24. Why is it so difficult to pray the prayer, "Show me my sin?" Yet why is it so important for us?
- 6. **Pray for Family**: Read Mk. 1:40-41. The leper knew two things: (1) he was unclean and (2) Jesus could make him well. Take a moment and pray for any unbelieving family members by name; that the Lord would open their eyes to these two realities. Pray also that *our* church would continue to rely on the Lord Jesus Christ to cleanse us from all our sins.

¹ Many answers, here are a few:

It assumes there is nothing in this world that is stigma-worthy (i.e. sin, nor a God who hates it).

It attempts to remove God and place humans in the transcendent role.

It assumes that moral/religious neutrality is possible.

It is ultimately impossible to remove stigmas from a culture because such a worldview would inherently stigmatize those who believed that there should be stigmas!