

11 ROYAL PRIESTS

KEY TEXT: LEVITICUS 8:1-13; 9:22-24

CENTRAL truth

When something is special to us, we may set it apart from other items and keep it for special use. In this week's passage, we will see God set apart Aaron and his sons to be priests. Through the establishment of the priesthood, we will see that **the Lord created a way for His people to approach Him.**

key question

What was the role of a priest in ancient Israel? Why was this role important?

As priests, Aaron and his sons would be in charge of making sacrifices and offerings, as well as determining the Lord's will and instructing His people. This was a unique role in which the individual mediated—in other words, was a go-between—between God and humanity.

keep in mind

- Leviticus is an often misunderstood book that tends to derail many attempts to read the Bible in a year. Remind students that this book can help us grow in our understanding of God's holiness and points to Jesus, our greater sacrificial Lamb and great High Priest. Provide any tips that you have found helpful for reading parts of Scripture that you've found difficult.
- The fire that came from the Lord in verse 24 to consume the burnt offering showed His approval of the sacrifice. In response the Israelites shouted for joy. Using the **Give an Answer** note, help students to see that joy is not the same as happiness that is tied to our circumstances; rather, the Lord is the true source of joy.

application

Read 1 Peter 2:9-10. What do these verses teach us about our identity as God's people?

the win

FOR THE STUDENT: Help students understand that Jesus is the great High Priest who has reconciled them to God. Through Christ's finished work, they can boldly come to God for grace and mercy as His children.

FOR THE LEADER: Remind students that in Christ, they are given a new identity and have access to God through Jesus's finished work. Pray that this truth would take root in their hearts.

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