

Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.

For the sake of time, you may want to choose one or two questions.

Warm up:

What daily or weekly rituals do you have? What things do you do each day or each week that help you navigate life?

Read

Leviticus 4:27-31 and Leviticus 6:1-7

Discuss

- Why did God give the ancient Israelites such precise, detailed rituals for experiencing forgiveness.? How would the detailed instructions and processes have been a help to the Israelite people?
- Why is our culture dismissive of rituals? Why have many rituals of the past (i.e. traditional funerals, Sunday dinners, family reunions, etc.) been abandoned or diminished?
- In his commentary on Leviticus, Samuel Balentine says that rituals are both <u>reflective</u> and <u>generative</u>. What do you think he means by this statement?
- Based on your answer to the above question, how does a specific ritual (like a birthday party) both embody and create the celebration?
- What spiritual rituals have been most helpful or beneficial to you? Are there any rituals that you have neglected that you feel prompted to resume?

Wrap Up:

Take a moment to close together in prayer.

