

# Sermon Based Small Groups Study Questions

Exodus [22:28-31](#)

## Start It: Connecting with each other

1. Have you ever made a promise to God in a time of crises or stress? If the situation was resolved, how quickly did you keep your promise to God?
2. Give a definition for "holy." Discuss what does it mean for God to be holy and what does it mean for Christians to be holy?

## Study It: Connecting with God's Word

1. (v. 28) What does it mean to "blaspheme" God? How is this tied in with "cursing the ruler of the people"?
2. (v. 29a) Why would some Israelites "hold back" their offerings? What advantage would that be? Why does God demand that they not do this?
3. (vv. 29b-30) Why did the Israelites have to give God the firstborn of their sons? What did this mean? How were they redeemed?
4. (v. 31) Why were the Israelites suppose to be holy people? What does it mean to be holy?

## Live It: Apply the Truth of Scripture

1. (v. 28) The Hebrew word for "curse God" or "blaspheme God" can mean 'to make light of'. How does this meaning motivate you in your relationship with God? What ways are there to make God more central in your life?
2. (v. 28b) How do you view your leaders (church, work, government, etc.)? Is this verse a challenge to your attitude, particularly for those leaders with whom you disagree? See [Acts 23:5](#).
3. (vv. 29-30) These verses challenge us to give our best to God and to understand God's ownership of us and all we have. How are these two truths evident in your life? How should they make a difference?
4. (v. 31) Many of these laws were given to remind the Israelites that they were in a privileged position with respect to God. God was holy so his people were also to be holy. How does this apply to the New Testament believer who is under the new covenant? Read [Romans 1:7](#); [Ephesians 1:4](#); [1 Corinthians 1:2](#); [2 Corinthians 7:1](#); [1 Thessalonians 3:13;4:7](#); [Hebrews 12:14](#); [1 John 3:3](#). How is Christ our holiness? Read [Romans 13:14a](#); [Galatians 3:27](#); [Luke 24:49](#); [Ephesians 4:24](#).