

## ***Study Hints for Thinking Further***

***International Bible Lessons***

**Leviticus 19:9-18, 33-37**

**Sunday, June 10, 2012**

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be answers to the discussion questions, but hints a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

### **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further**

**1. Read Leviticus 19:9-10. Where you live, how might you and/or your church or family apply the intention of these commands to the Israelites?**

We might try to find ways to help the unemployed find work or give to established food pantries (or create one) or support rescue missions or homeless shelters and other charitable organizations. We will need to find ways to help the needy that will not discourage someone from working or encourage someone not to work (or think they do not need to work). God's way in the Old Testament established ways for everyone to work and meet their needs.

**2. Why do you think God requires everyone to obey His moral law and not just some people?**

God's moral law is summed up in one word, love. The Bible further explains that the command to love includes loving God and our neighbors. God will never tell anyone that they do not need to love God and others.

**3. Read Leviticus 19:12. How would you interpret the meaning of this verse for today?**

We should not do anything in God's name that could in any way be contrary to the express will of God as revealed in the Bible. To do anything evil or wrong in the name of God is to profane God's name.

**4. In this lesson, what reason does God give to people as the main reason to obey Him? Can you think of other good reasons to obey God?**

God gives this reason: "I am the LORD" in verses 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 36, 37. Other reasons to obey God include: God is our Creator, our Father, our Judge, our King, and our Savior; God loves us and does good to us, and God wants us to love and do good to others; God's commands are for our good always, and obeying God will result in the most good to the most people.

**5. Today, how difficult is it to reprove your neighbor? What is different about the Israelite and his neighbor, and someone today and their neighbor that makes reprovng a neighbor difficult? Compare this command to the command of Jesus, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20).**

Today, it is difficult, because we live in nations that do not recognize that they are explicitly under the law of God our King. We do not live in nations where everyone is expected by everyone to honor, love, and obey God as King, because these nations are not as ancient Israel. After prayer, Christians can talk about the Bible’s teachings to a disobedient neighbor who is a Christian. If the neighbor is not a Christian, then we can prayerfully share the good news with our neighbor by word and deed, encourage them to find a good church home, perhaps offer to study the Bible with them (perhaps begin a neighborhood Bible study), and talk about the importance of following Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and obeying everything He has commanded.

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