



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Leviticus 12	Title:	“Let’s Celebrate Life!”
Author	Sis Ho Kwai Cheng		
Summary of Chapter	Lev 12 deals with the ceremonial uncleanness associated with childbirth. Under the Old Testament Laws, after giving birth, a mother was considered ritually unclean. She would have to observe a period of purification and would remain ceremonially unclean until she presented herself to the priests and made an offering to God after her period of purification		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<i>⁶ “When the time of purification is completed for either a son or a daughter, the woman ... must bring her offerings to the priest at the entrance of the Tabernacle. ⁷ The priest will then present them to the LORD to purify her. Then she will be ceremonially clean again after her bleeding at childbirth.....”</i>	The ritual purification is more for ceremonial uncleanness. The loss of blood represented something that is less than perfect. Hence a woman was considered unclean because she bled during childbirth. Since God is perfect, whole and life-giving, she could not participate in sacred activities nor enter sacred space till after the period of purification. God is concerned with all aspects of our lives. Childbirth and the loss of blood associated with it represented an occasion to remember God and that He is life. The observance of the ritual of cleansing after childbirth was a sign of one’s dedication of one’s life and family to the Lord. Presenting the whole family at the Temple is dedication and worship to God. This was the affirmation of the preciousness of our God-given life. After presenting her purification offerings, the new mother’s uncleanness was atoned for and she could go to God’s house to worship with God’s people. She then began carrying out her responsibility of a mother. After my confinement, like the period of purification in the Old Testament, we brought our newborn to church and dedicated him and ourselves to raising him up in the ways of God. The period of confinement is to remind ourselves that blood represents life and that God is life and life to the newborn. The next time you attend a Baby Dedication Service, do remember to appreciate the preciousness of life and family. Pray for the child that he may grow up in the fear of the Lord and commit the parents to the Lord as they carry out their responsibility as parents.

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	What is God saying to you as you look at a newborn? Are you able to celebrate life as you see the preciousness of it?
Youth:	What do you think of abortion in an unplanned pregnancy?
Child:	Do you like birthday celebrations? Why do we have birthday parties? Say a short prayer to thank God for the life He has given you.

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Father, we thank you for children are a gift from You. They are entrusted to us that we may raise them for Your glory. Protect our children as we dedicate them to You. Give parents the wisdom and patience to bring them up in the fear of the Lord.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus’ Name I/we pray. Amen.