



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Leviticus 15	Title:	"Pure Hearts"
Author	Sister Serene Soh		
Summary of Chapter	Men and women had various bodily discharges. These caused them to become 'unclean' and hence unfit for worship in the temple.		

Key Verse(s)	How does it speak to me?
31 <i>"This is how you will guard the people of Israel from ceremonial uncleanness. Otherwise they would die, for their impurity would defile my Tabernacle that stands among them."</i>	<p>The uncleanness mentioned in the verse refers to ceremonial uncleanness instead of just physical uncleanness. Coming into contact with those who had discharges would also result in ceremonial uncleanness. As blood and semen are symbols of life and redemption, any form of discharge, even in the natural processes, reminds us of our own physical human weaknesses, pointing to our brokenness and impurity.</p> <p>When I was a young Christian, I wondered how I could draw close to the Lord and to be in His presence. Psalm 23:3,4 showed me what was required. "Who may climb the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in His Holy place? Only those whose hands are clean and hearts are pure." I had many questions about how I should behave, my speech and my lifestyle. Would reading certain books, watching movies and associating with certain people cause me to sin? Jesus taught that what defiled us were not external factors but rather what came from within ourselves. Just like what is mentioned in today's chapter, it was the internal bodily discharges and not the external factors that resulted in their uncleanness. Our actions and words are important but our main focus should be about guarding our hearts. He is interested in our purity of heart, our motives and sincerity.</p> <p>I now focus on a close walk with Jesus, abiding in Him, obeying God's commands and always being conscious that I am the temple of the Holy Spirit. I would not want to grieve the Holy Spirit with sinful thoughts but would like the Lord to be pleased to dwell in me.</p>

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	Do you watch your heart closely, loving the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind?
Youth:	Are there certain areas of your life which have not been surrendered to God? Are you still holding onto something which you know would not please Him?
Child:	Thinking of bad things without doing it is also a sin. Think of one bad thought you had for the past week and pray to God, asking Him to forgive and change you.

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Heavenly Father, thank you for the sacrifice of Jesus and cleansing by the Holy Spirit that make it possible for us to enter into Your holy presence. Help us to watch over our hearts so that we can be a temple you are pleased to dwell in.
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.