

## THE SABBATH CIRCLES HOME SCHOOL CURRICULUM

*Unit Theme: What is God asking of us in this moment?*

*Lesson connected to Sunday, September 22, 2019*

*Today's Scripture: Leviticus 25:1-17*

**Key Verse:** “And you shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you: you shall return, every one of you, to your property and every one of you to your family.” Leviticus 25:10

*Contexts of the Scripture:*

- Look up Leviticus in the Table of Contents of your bible. Where is it found?
- Leviticus is part of the Torah, or Pentateuch, the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures. These five books form the foundation of the Hebrew faith up through the time of the escape from Egypt and its aftermath.
- Leviticus is most likely a composite book the contents of which were collected and codified over time. Therefore, it is difficult to date for our timeline. Scholars generally date it around the late 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE.
- It is helpful to think of Leviticus as divided into two parts: Chapters 1-16 which describe worship practices are for the priests and Chapters 17-26 are for the people so they can understand how it is God wants them to live their lives. This second part of the book is known as the “Holiness Code.”

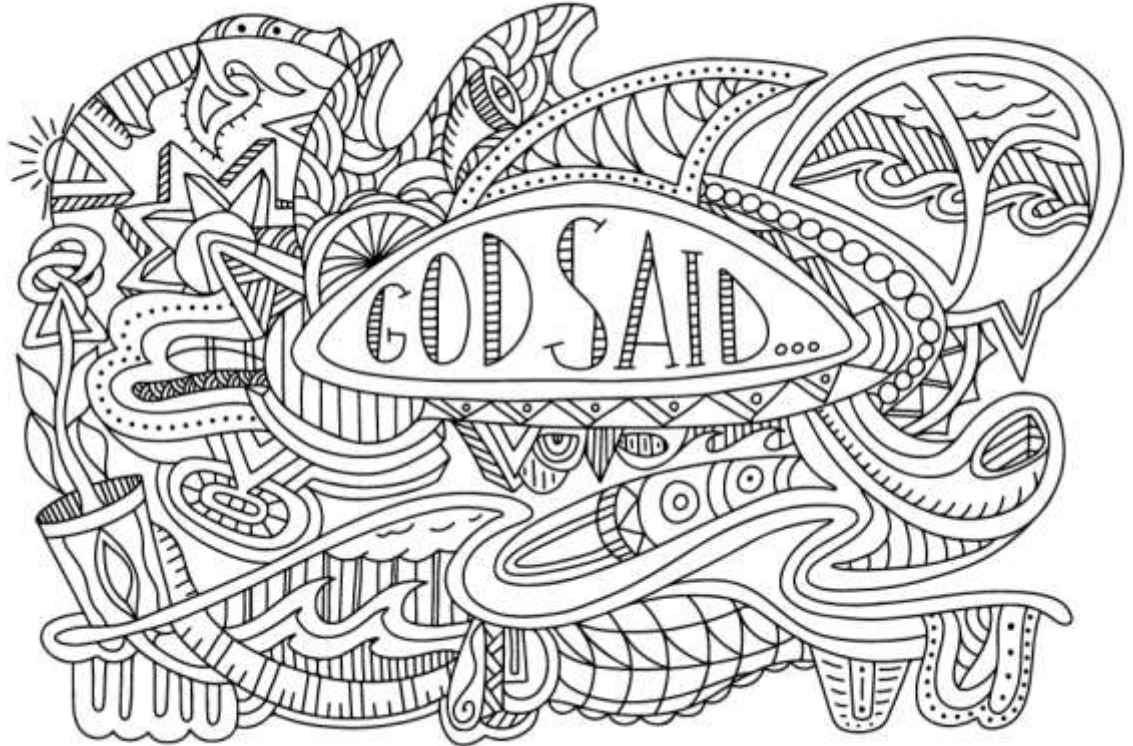
*Questions to go deeper:*

- Read through the text slowly. Use a piece of paper to note all the instructions provided in the text. Once your list is complete, can you see a pattern to the instructions? What is it?
- Two key words in this text are: sabbath and jubilee. What does each mean? How are they different? How are they connected?
- Look again at the list of instructions you created from your reading of the text. Which of these actions do you think would be the most difficult to do for you? Why?
- Which of these instructions do you think would be helpful to us if we were able to put them into practice in our lives today? Why and how would it be helpful? Why would it be difficult to do? How might you try to do it anyway?

*Activity possibilities:*

- **Family activities:**
  - Add “Jubilee” to your bible timeline. See notes above to figure out where it would go.
  - If you and your family attend the PNC Hog Wild Event, talk about the event together to see if you can find connections between the event and the instructions for sabbath and jubilee from today's text.

- As a family, set aside a regular time for “jubilee” together on a weekly or month basis. When would it be? How would you honor it? Once you have an idea about how you would like to do it, create a “Jubilee” covenant together and have everyone sign it. Then block it out on the calendar!
- **Younger children activities:**
  - Enjoy this coloring page: You can photocopy this page, then enlarge it, cut it out and color it!



- **Older children and youth activities:**
  - Use this link to watch a video on YouTube about the Jubilee character from X-Men: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kzdyvdyDCTA>
    - Thinking about today’s text about the biblical concept of Jubilee, what connections can you see to the X-Men Jubilee?
    - Note how the ethnicity of the Jubilee character keeps changing in this video. How is that problematic?
    - This video actually talks about God. Can you find where? How is this brief scene connected to the biblical concept of jubilee?

*Going Deeper:*

Remember, Rev. Ruth is always happy to answer your questions and help you find more information on anything in the Bible that interests you! Catch up with her through the church or come to the Savoy Bookstore and Café any Thursday afternoon between 2-4pm.