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| **SERIES** | **FINDING JESUS**  |
| **BIBLE** | **Leviticus 16** |
| **TITLE/TOPIC** | **United at Last (God’s Gift of Atonement)** |
| **OVERVIEW** | Intro: Scenario where access to a desired place is contingent upon clearance. (VIP backstage, serving in kids zone, etc)How can an unholy people dwell with a Holy God? Enter Leviticus and specifically Leviticus 16 to discover the gracious way that God provides for his people to experience his presence. **Holiness – set apart, unique. an attribute of God and where he dwells.** *“Holiness, as applied to people and things is a relational concept. They are holy “to the Lord” (Exod 28:36), never ‘from’ something.”*Tremper Longman IIIPROPS: Have an area on the stage blocked off and hidden with a curtain. Have someone be your high priest to illustrate the person and the process of entering the curtain, the place of the presence of God. Be as creative or as simple as you like.  **Purpose:** God desires to dwell with people. God, in his grace, institutes a **process** to bring about that purpose. The process, atonement (at-one-ment). Atonement is the bringing together of God and man in relationship, by covering and removing our sin.  |
| **SCRIPTURE BREAKDOWN** | **Purpose:**  God is going to dwell in their camp in a specific place. The most holy place. Lev 16:2b **“**For I will appear in the cloud over the atonement cover.” **Process:** Lev 16:29-34* Specific time – vs 29
* Specific person (high priest) – vs 32
* Specific garments – vs 32
* Specific sacrifices – vs 3,5
* Lots of blood – vs 14-19
* Specific response of the community – vs 29-31

**Limitations:*** Only once a year
* Only the high priest can enter
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| **GOSPEL** | How does this sermon bring people to the Gospel?* God’s purpose remains the same. To dwell with us. Jesus Christ is the very grace of God, given to us as our atonement. The merciful and faithful high priest, upon living a perfect life presented himself as a perfect sacrifice. At his death the curtain was torn, not by man, but by God, indicating that the way into the most holy place is available, not just one day by one person, but every moment by all who are united by faith with the one who sits at the right hand of God, whose mercy covers all our sins, through his blood that has secured our forgiveness of sins. (Romans 3:25-26; Hebrews 9-10:25; Mark 15:37-38)
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| **NEXT**STEPS | Begin | Connect | Engage | Grow | Disciple **BEGIN –** God has graciously provided his Son for our atonement with him. Responding by repenting and believing in Him. **GROW/CONNECT –** Hebrews 4:16, 10:19-25 – Don’t shy away from the throne of grace but come experience the mercy and grace found in our high priest.  |

**Resources:**

* The Bible Project “Leviticus”