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GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Tabernacle: The Brazen Laver

Use with the full teaching and a Bible. Read or watch first, complete the questions, then discuss and apply. For family study, an adult can select suitable portions and accept spoken answers.

Test the teaching's explanations against the cited passages. Keep the answer key and facilitator notes separate when distributing learner pages.

[Open the full teaching](#)

Teaching summary

The bronze laver stood between the altar and the Tent of Meeting. Aaron and his sons washed their hands and feet before serving at the altar or entering the tent. Its exact size is not given in the cited instructions.

The teaching compares the priests' initial consecration washing with their repeated washing for service. It connects the first with a changed life and dedication to God, and the repeated washing with ongoing attention to sin. Exodus 29 describes the initial washing but does not explicitly name the laver as its water source.

The laver becomes a picture of baptism, repentance, and the Spirit's renewing work. Baptism is strongly encouraged as an outward proclamation of repentance and identification with Yeshua. It does not produce forgiveness, is not a Torah commandment, and is not a requirement for salvation.

The basin was made from bronze mirrors. The lesson develops this fact into an illustration of God's word revealing what needs to change in us. James' mirror comparison calls us to become doers of the word rather than forgetful hearers.

Yeshua's washing of the disciples' feet becomes an example of humble service and helping one another remain ready to serve. We encourage one another toward love, good works, and repentance rather than assuming that every failure requires starting our conversion again.

The lesson's aim is growth toward maturity. God's mercy and Messiah's blood ground our new life; the Spirit enables service, and the word guides continuing self-examination. The priesthood analogy describes spiritual service without assigning believers the office or duties of Levitical priests.

Summary points

- The laver was a bronze washing basin between the altar and tent.
- Aaron and his sons washed hands and feet before sanctuary service.
- The teaching distinguishes consecration washing from repeated washing.
- Baptism publicly expresses repentance and identification with Messiah.
- God saves according to mercy rather than our righteous works.
- Spiritual priesthood calls us to serve through Messiah.
- The laver was made from the serving women's bronze mirrors.
- God's word exposes sin and calls for obedient action.
- Yeshua's example encourages humble mutual service.

- The lesson calls us to continue toward maturity.

Fill in the blank

Use the teaching and the cited Bible passages. Equivalent wording is welcome when it expresses the same meaning.

Basic

1. The laver was made of _____.
2. It stood between the altar and the Tent of _____.
3. The priests washed their hands and _____ before serving.
4. The basin was made from the women's bronze _____.
5. James tells us to be doers of the _____.
6. Yeshua washed his disciples' _____.

Challenging

1. Romans 6 connects baptism with Messiah's death and _____.
2. Titus says God saved us according to his _____.
3. The teaching connects anointing oil with God's _____.
4. Peter says spiritual sacrifices are acceptable to God through Messiah _____.
5. Hebrews urges us to stir up one another to love and good _____.
6. Hebrews 6 urges us to go on to _____.

Group discussion

Discuss respectfully and support answers from the passages. Use these lines for brief notes or a notebook for longer responses.

1. What did the priests wash, and when were they required to wash?

2. How does the lesson distinguish initial dedication from ongoing growth?

3. How should we explain baptism while preserving God's grace?

4. What does the mirror illustration ask us to do after hearing Scripture?

5. How can we apply Yeshua's foot-washing example within a group?

6. What is the next step after beginning a life of faith?

Answer key

For the leader or parent. Answers follow the teaching and the passages. Accept equivalent wording that expresses the same meaning.

Basic

1. bronze

Exodus 30:18

2. Meeting

Exodus 30:18

3. feet

Exodus 30:19-21

4. mirrors

Exodus 38:8

5. word

James 1:22

6. feet

John 13:10-15

Challenging

1. resurrection

Romans 6:3-5

2. mercy (also: own mercy)

Titus 3:5

3. Spirit (also: Holy Spirit)

1 Samuel 16:13; Acts 10:38

4. Yeshua (also: Jesus)

1 Peter 2:5

5. works

Hebrews 10:24

6. maturity

Hebrews 6:1

Facilitator notes

These responses give direction for discussion. They are not a test of identical wording. Invite participants to explain the passages and consider a faithful practical response.

1. Aaron and his sons washed their hands and feet before entering the tent or approaching the altar to minister. The requirement belonged to their particular sanctuary service and taught the seriousness of approaching holy things.

Exodus 30:17-21

2. It compares the priests' consecration washing with a decisive life change, and regular hand-and-foot washing with ongoing repentance and self-examination. The analogy encourages growth without treating every stumble as a need to begin conversion again.

Exodus 29:4-9; 30:19-21; John 13:10

3. Baptism expresses repentance and identification with Messiah's death and resurrection. It is strongly encouraged, but the water does not save or forgive, and remaining unbaptized is not itself sin. Titus locates salvation in God's mercy.

Romans 6:1-7; Titus 3:3-5

4. We should examine our conduct, recognize sin, and act on the word rather than forgetting it. The basin's mirror material supplies an illustration; James explicitly makes hearing and doing the central issue.

Exodus 38:8; James 1:22-25; Romans 7:7

5. We can serve humbly, welcome correction, and encourage one another toward love and good works. The lesson's spiritual application should retain the passage's concrete example of lowly service and avoid turning correction into control.

John 13:10-15; Hebrews 10:22-25

6. We continue toward maturity through service, love, repentance, and learning God's word. The spiritual-priesthood picture calls us to help others while depending on Messiah; it does not make us Levitical priests.

1 Peter 2:5; Hebrews 6:1-3

Put it into practice

Choose one response to the passages. What will we do, and when will we revisit it? Share only what you are comfortable sharing.