

Building strong communities

Introduction June 11th '17

Questions for further study

In this series, we're looking at the 10 commandments given by God to Israel after the Exodus from Egypt. We'll be exploring how these ancient, foundational laws apply into modern life.

1. The 3rd commandment says, "*You must not misuse the name of the LORD your God. The LORD will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.*"

Exodus 20:7

Discuss your experience of this issue. Are you new to the Christian faith & finding it difficult to change your language? Does this pose problems for you in your work environment? How do you cope with this in teaching your children about what pleases God?

2. We talked about this commandment referring to more than misusing God's name as a swear word. For example misusing God's name by saying "God has told me" – but really wanting to push your own agenda by, or by saying you're a Christian but living like you're not, or by singing words as you worship that you don't mean and don't live out.

Discuss this together.

3. The Bible encourages us to "call on the name of the LORD".

Why is the "name of Jesus" so important to us as Christians?

Look up Romans 10:19; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 6:11; Ephesians 2:20; Matthew 28:19; John 14:14, 16:24; Acts 3:6,16; Acts 5:40; Acts 9:27; James 2:19; Jeremiah 10:6; Matt 28:18; Proverbs 18:10; Psalm 103:1; Hebrews 13:15; Philippians 2:10.

4. Turn this around and look at how we can *honour* God's name. What principle does Colossians 3:17 ask us to live by? We illustrated this by looking at what J.S.Bach wrote on his music scores - the initials SDG – the Latin Soli Deo Gloria, "To God alone be glory". How can we follow Bach's example and do all for the glory of God?

- Pray for those in our world "who risk their lives for the name of Jesus."
Acts 15:26
- Pray that as a church and as individuals we would honour the name of God.
- Pray for our nation – that many would call on the name of Jesus.
- Pray for all that will be done "in the name of Jesus" at the Fun Day this Saturday.