

LG | Leader

[Exodus 20:7]

WARM-UP (10 mins)

It is likely that everyone present had a very busy day, maybe even a trying day. Let's take a moment to still our minds and go the Lord in prayer.

- Are you enjoying learning and re-discovering the 10 Commandments? What has been the most impactful element in your life thus far?

ILLUMINATE (40 mins)

Open your Bibles to the primary text.

1. Read the 3rd Commandment, Exodus 20:7. As we begin this discussion, in your own words, what do you think this commandment is saying?
Don't use God's name in a way that dishonors Him. [Primarily, God was referring to taking an oath in His name or using God's name to sanction an evil act. The commandments also bans the use of God's name irreverently or disrespectfully.]
2. How is God's name and His actions connected?
All throughout the Bible, God's name was used in association with His actions (i.e. - I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of slavery). To use God's name in a way that did not reflect His providence was to attempt to strip God's name of His love/mercy/power.
3. Is there any correlation between using the Lord's name in vain and God's holiness? Should God's name be mixed with evil acts?
Because God is holy, His name is not to be used in association with anything unbecoming of God. To use His name irreverently or to associate His name in a way that is misaligned with His character is to associate Him with unholiness, violating the 3rd commandment (i.e. – God's name being used during the practice of magic).
4. What are some modern examples of how we may violate the 3rd Commandment?
[Examples: Saying OMG or any other derivative, athletes using poor language then giving glory to god after the game, reducing God to fit our reality..."Jesus is my co-pilot" philosophy, approaching God casually in our prayer/worship]
5. What other evidences in the Bible display a reverence for God's name?
[Examples: When Jesus teaches the Lord's Prayer, he begins by saying, "Our Father, Hallowed be your name." In addition, there are countless examples where individuals in the Bible act for, "His glory, and His namesake."]
6. How would you explain the 3rd commandment to a child? Anyone want to try?
[Example: God desires for us to love Him. We love Him by speaking kindly towards him. When we talk about God, we are to talk about Him in a way that is kind and respectful, because He is kind

and respectful. In fact, he created love, kindness, and respectfulness. They are all fruits of His Spirit.]

7. As we finish this discussion is there anything that has come to mind in your own life that needs to be addressed as possible routine violations of the 3rd Commandment?

[Leader Note: The Ten Commandments are a revelation of God to us, His people, to give us His covenant expectations, but to also give us a reference point for the beauty and wonder of a sinless Savior – Jesus Christ.]

PRAY

Use this time to pray specifically. Pray for the needs of others; locally and abroad.