

## **The 10 Commandments: How Life Works**

Exodus 20:7 Don't Misuse God's Name (3rd commandment)

### **Ice Breaker Question:**

Can you think of a time when you represented your company or school or team? In what ways could *your* words or *your* actions have reflected positively or negatively upon the entity represented by you?

### **Going Deeper from Sunday**

#### ***Sermon Synopsis***

Third commandment literally means, "Do not lift up the name of the Lord to falsehood (or for what is worthless)." The third commandment applies to far more than speaking as it is commonly understood. The Lord's name is God's identity which he has revealed to us. God commands us to do nothing to diminish it. In the Lord's prayer, we called to pray for the opposite to happen, that his name would be hallowed, or made holy. When we are followers of Jesus, those who are called by his name, with our whole lives as well as our words, we represent him, what we do reflects on his name, either to make it holy or to misuse or diminish it.

Share any reflections and/or questions that may have arisen from the sermon on Sunday?

### **Going Deeper**

The third commandment is: "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."

What are some common misuses of the Lord's name?

How would you explain the difference between this commandment and profanity?

How does the third commandment build on the first two?

When you hear God's name misused, in word, or in deed by those who claim to be doing things in God's name, how do you react?

**Read 1 Peter 4:14-16**

Why would we be blessed if someone insulted us because of the name of Christ?

Do you ever feel embarrassed or ashamed to be called a Christian? Why does that happen? When we are ashamed of Christ, what message does that send to the world about *him*?

Read Colossians 3:17. What does it look like practically to *do* everything and *say* everything in the name of Jesus?

Think of the 3rd commandment in light of this verse. How could you misuse the name of the Lord Jesus in word or deed? How could you do or say something in the name of Jesus falsely or in an empty worthless way?

When we follow Jesus, we are his representatives (ambassadors 2 Cor 5:20). In what ways can we live our life as to bring glory to his name?

*Spend time reflecting on the glory of God's name. Pray for forgiveness for how you may have diminished his name and for strength and guidance to live lives that bring glory to his name. Share other needs and pray for one another as you close.*

(Note, some questions are taken from Rob Suggs IV guide: The 10 Commandments)