



# Outward Group Discussion Guide

January 25, 2026 (Silverton)

## SUMMARY

This sermon explores the third commandment—"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain"—revealing that it encompasses far more than avoiding profanity. The pastor emphasizes that as Christians, we bear the name of Christ and must live lives that match this sacred identity. God's name represents His character, authority, presence, and promises. Taking His name in vain occurs not only through careless words but through actions that contradict our Christian profession. Despite our failures to honor God's name, the gospel message provides hope: through Jesus Christ, God vindicates His holy name by cleansing, restoring, and transforming those who have profaned it. The sermon calls believers to stop cheapening God's name and instead to proclaim "Jesus be the name" in every word and deed, allowing the Holy Spirit to help us live authentically as representatives of Christ.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways do you find yourself worshiping false gods like money, success, or relationships, and how does this impact your ability to honor God's name?
2. How does understanding that Christians 'bear the name of Christ' change the way you think about your daily actions and words?
3. The pastor shared a story about being drunk at a party and feeling unable to mention Jesus. Have you ever experienced a moment where your life didn't match the name you claim, and how did that impact you?
4. What does it mean to you that God vindicates His holy name not because we deserve it, but for the sake of His own name?
5. How can we move from profaning God's name to truly taking it seriously in both our words and our deeds?
6. The sermon mentions that sin lasts for generations but God's love lasts for a thousand generations. How have you seen either the

consequences of sin or the blessing of God's love impact your family?

7. What practical steps can you take this week to ensure your life matches the name of Christ that you claim?
8. How does Jesus' death and resurrection allow God to be both just in punishing sin and merciful in saving sinners?
9. The pastor says we should say Jesus' name more, not less, but in ways that honor Him. What would it look like to 'do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus' in your specific life circumstances?
10. How does the story from Ezekiel 36 about God rebuilding desolate lives into gardens of Eden give you hope for your own spiritual restoration?