

Taking God Seriously
Exodus 20:7
Bible Study Notes
September 24, 2025

What so special about God's Name? The Hebrews believed that your name represented your character, your personality, your person, your authority. If you are going to be serious about God, you have got to learn how to use His Name correctly. There are some ways we misuse His Name:

a. To insult others

We often use His Name in profanity, swearing or cursing. Swearing is treating something sacred with abuse or cussing. Comedians do this to be funny. God and the word hell is often used in a profane way. (ex. It is hot as hell, raining like hell, stupid as hell) You got people who are not saved, never go to church, never read the Bible or even deny God, yet He is used in their sentences (God this, and God that, etc.). Profanity is used by weak people using strong words. It is a sign of insecurity, immaturity, and lack of emotional control.

b. To indulge ourselves

God's name has been used as an excuse or blame. Some people would say God led me to do this and that, I know it is wrong, but God will forgive me. Sometimes it is used to manipulate others. They bring in God to help back up a weak argument or manipulate other people by saying God told me to say or do this (ex. Prosperity preachers).

c. To intimidate

We say things like "God will get you for that" with a focus on hurting someone.

d. To impress

Use God name to show off your spirituality. They say "Praise the Lord" behind every thing they say." It is to use His Name as a focus on ourselves and not God.

e. Impulsively

When you react, you use God's name. When something good or bad happens and you go "oh God." We use God as an exclamation point.

How do you take God seriously? Look at Colossians 3:17

1. Be SINCERE when you worship

Concentrate on the Lord. Keep your focus on Him. Look at Psalm 29:2. True worship focuses on God and nothing else. It has nothing to do with people or even the choir singing or the pastor preaching. You focus only on God.

2. Be SELECTIVE with your words

Watch what you say, guard your mouth, control your tongue. Look at Matthew 12:36. I remember when we use to use slang as a way of getting close to cussing. We use words like hot jam, grit, son of a gum, etc. These are cop-out words for using the Lord's name in vain. Look at Psalm 141:3.

3. Be STEADFAST in your walk

His Name ought to be the authority in your home with a commitment to let your lifestyle matches what you say. It is to make sure what we are doing is in line with His direction in our lives. Look at 2 Timothy 2:19. Look at Acts 4:12. It is the name, the authority of Jesus which is the key to true deliverance.