

TEN COMMANDMENTS

Discussion Questions 3/5/23

Commandment #3 - Do Not Abuse God's Name

Family Check-up:

What is God teaching you in your quiet time?

Who have you had the privilege of reaching out to this week?

Intro: What does it mean to not use the Lord's name in vain? You might be surprised to find out that the original Hebrew shows us that it's all about how we carry the name of God. This helps us to realize that the people of God carry the name of God with them and be aware of how they are carrying that name.

Read: Exodus 20:7

1. A name is how we know someone. We use a name to identify a person and it wraps up everything we know about who they are as a person. Israel was to take the name of God seriously. What did God want them to know about him?
2. Jesus talked about honoring God's name as holy. Holy means to be set apart for a distinct purpose. We don't generally think of what it means to make something holy, but what might it mean for us to think of God's name as holy? How might that impact how we talk about him? How might that impact how we talk to him?
3. The Hebrew word used to describe "carrying" the Lord's name in Exodus 20 is only used one time in Exodus before this passage. God claims that he carried Israel into freedom on eagles wings. To carry something in this way means that you are bringing it along with you. Do you ever think about the weight of what it means to carry God's name with you everywhere you go? How might you live differently if you were to constantly consider that you are carrying God's name to work, to the store, when you speak to your children, and beyond?
4. Read Matthew 7:15-23. Though people did things with the name of God, they were considered to be people who did not do the will of God. Are there any examples today of those who use the name of God and are still outside of his will? What is Jesus wanting from us according to this passage?
5. We as South Valley play a part in carrying the reputation of God. What could we do to share a true representation of God to our community?

Pray: Ask God to show you the places you have not properly honored his name and then ask him to share with you the weight that his name carries. Take time to pray over concerns of members in the group and specifically pray over them in the name of Jesus.