**Midweek Gathering**

Section: The Law

Lesson #38- October 4, 2023

**DISCUSSION GUIDE**

**Q47. Why does God give the third commandment:**

**You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God?**

So we will respect and honorGod as the worthy and holy One.

**1. Before tonight’s lesson, how seriously did you take the “name” of the Lord?**

**-How mindful, careful, respectful, serious are you when it comes to how you speak about God or use his name in your daily life?**

**-How serious are you about how others steward your name or the name of someone you love in their mouths?**

**Read: Leviticus 24:16**

**2. Why did God prescribe such a serious consequence for those who blasphemed His name?**

**\*reference the definition in your HN for “Blasphemy” if needed.**

**How does the seriousness of this consequence help you take more seriously this third commandment in your own life?**

**3. Webster defines “vain” as:** *Empty; worthless; having no substance, value or importance.*

**Why should we not take the Lord’s name in vain?**

**Read: Psalm 8:1** & **Psalm 29:2**

**4. Why does God’s worthiness and holiness demand that we honor Him and use of his name in all that we do and say?**

**- When you consider God’s name, “Yahweh”, meaning HE IS!!! How does this help you improve your reverence for God more than in the past?**

**Read: Matthew 6:9**

The word hallowed here means “holy”. Which means to be “SET APART” Not common.

5. **Is God set apart from or higher then everything else in your heart? Do you “speak” of Him and to Him this way? If not, in what ways should this begin to change?**

The third commandment also forbids empty or false oaths.

**Leviticus 19:12** “You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.”

The NT teaches us to “let our Yes be our Yes”!

**6. In what ways do you need to grow in your trustworthiness so that you are not needing to make oaths because your testimony is that you are one who keeps your word?**

To profane something is to make what is sacred common place.

**7. If you are guilty of saying OMG or “Jesus Christ” are you now seeing how this is not a minor thing but a major misrepresenting of what God’s name is due?**

**In what ways are you making light of Profanity in your life or in the things that you are entertained by?**

The third commandment also prohibits false claims of prophesy.

**Read Phil Ryken** quote again:

“A more serious way to break the third commandment is by using God’s name to advance our own agenda. Some Christians say, “The Lord told me to do this.” Or worse, they say, “The Lord told me to tell you to do this.” This is false prophecy! God has already said whatever he needs to say to us in his Word. Of course, there is also an inward leading of the Holy Spirit. But this is only an inward leading, and it should not be misrepresented as an authoritative word from God.”

It is so important that we get this right because if we do not we break the third command.

**8. In what ways, have you or do you need to grow in this?**

The third commandment requires that we speak the truth about who God is and how he works.

**9. Why does our theology matter in regards to how we speak of God or represent God?**

**10. In what ways can your members invite your each other in to practice accountability to grow in this area so they we truly obey this third command of God and “**respect and honorGod as the worthy and holy One”?

**Close in Prayer Together.**