
❖SERMON NOTES❖

Sunday, April 27, 2008

“TAKING GOD SERIOUSLY”

(Exodus 20:7)

Today we continue our study of some key rules for the “Game of Life.” Like most of the Ten Commandments, we have reduced the third commandment to a prohibition against attaching God’s name to a curse word. Taking God’s name in “vain” involves much more.

“A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold” (Proverbs 22:1, NIV).

1. We take God’s name in vain by our _____.

2. We take God’s name in vain by our _____.

(a) Thoughts of _____.

(b) Thoughts toward _____.

(c) Thoughts toward _____.

3. We take God’s name in vain by our _____.

(a) We sing songs to the Lord but we don’t _____.

(b) We open our Bibles but we _____ what it says.

(c) We pray but we don’t _____.

4. We take God’s name in vain by our _____.

We can use His name in _____.

We can use His name in _____.

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“A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold” (Proverbs 22:1, NIV).

1. We take God’s name in vain by our words.

“The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45, NIV).

2. We take God’s name in vain by our thoughts.

(a) Thoughts of sin

“The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so” (Romans 8:7, NIV).

“The LORD detests the thoughts of the wicked, but those of the pure are pleasing to him” (Proverbs 15:26, NIV).

(b) Thoughts toward others

(c) Thoughts toward God

3. We take God’s name in vain by our worship.

(a) We sing songs to the Lord but we don’t mean them.

(b) We open our Bibles but we don’t obey what it says.

“This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word” (Isaiah 66:2, NIV).

(c) We pray but we don’t believe it.

“And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it” (John 14:13-14, NIV).

4. We take God’s name in vain by our actions.

“Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth” (Joshua 24:14, NKJV).

“Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions” (1 John 3:18, NLT).

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and you shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:36-40, NIV).

“They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny him” (Titus 1:16, NIV).

“Everyone who says he is a Christian must turn away from sin” (2 Timothy 2:19, NLT).

We can use His name in profession

We can use His name in prayer

We can use His name in praise

We can use His name in productive living