

Sunday, September 18

## Commandment 3

Large Group

Ice breaker 5-10 min

Worship 10-15 min

Volunteer Descriptions 5 min

Lesson (15 min)

Review

- Why do we have the 10 commandments?
  - Defines what sin is ([Romans 7:7](#))
  - Tells us why we need Jesus ([Romans 7:21-25](#)) ([Romans 3:20](#))
  
- Where do we find them in the bible?
  - [Exodus 20:1-17](#) and [Deuteronomy 5](#)
  
- Commandments 1 and 2 review
  - (1) You shall have no other gods before me. (2) You shall not make any idols
    - [Exodus 20:3-6](#)

## Commandment 3

- You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. ([Exodus 20:7](#))
- What is in a name?
  - Student Answers
- The meaning of names in the Bible is important.
  - Abram to Abraham ([Gen 17](#))
  - Sarai to Sarah ([Gen 17](#))
  - Esau means hairy
- Biblical References-God's Name
  - ([Psalm 8:1](#))
  - ([Matt 6:9](#))

- What is taking the Lord's name in vain?
  - Definitions
    - Vain- misuse, inappropriate use
    - Blaspheme-Speak irreverently or without appropriate respect
  - Taking an oath with God's name ([Leviticus 19:12](#)) ([Matthew 5:33-37](#))
  - Blaspheme the name of the God ([Leviticus 24:16](#))
- Examples of using God's name without reverence
  - Common times with think of breaking commandment 3
    - Swearing
    - OMG
  - Less common
    - Business advantage
    - Common sayings (God Bless you, I will pray for you)
  - Examples of above that are good (ensure that every time someone says I will pray for you, or references God in a business that it is known that this can be a good thing. Speaking to intent.)
    - Intentional naming of business
    - Actual intent to pray for someone

### Small Group Questions

- How does it make you feel when someone you meet remembers your name?
- Has any of you ever had someone make fun of your name or give a nickname that you do not like? How did that make you feel?
  
- Have any of you heard God's name used in vain?
  
- It is easy to see how common language such as OMG violates the 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment. How could the common saying of, "My thoughts and prayers are with you." Violate the 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment? Is there anything else we do on a regular basis that could unintentionally be violating this commandment?
  - Other examples that may be used inappropriately may include items such as God Bless You, taking scripture out of context. Goal of question to try to think intentionally about how we are using God's name without reverence. If used with reverence and intentionality these could be perfectly reasonable items. If used as a way to gain favor with others, this would violate the intent of the third commandment.

- What if we say it but don't mean anything bad when we say something like OMG?
  - [[Matthew 12:36-37](#) And I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak. <sup>37</sup>The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you.”]
  
- Last week we talked about [Matthew 22:34-40](#) ‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ How does Jesus’ response to this tie into this commandment?
  - [If you love God with everything you have you will honor Him in how you speak of Him and use the name of the Lord.]
  
- Has anyone here ever heard of name dropping? How would you describe it?
- Have you ever heard someone doing some name dropping where it may have been inappropriate?
  - [Acquire unearned special treatment, the person referenced would not want the other person to get what they are asking for, or it damages the reputation of the person referenced]
  
- We talked about examples of using God’s name to gain favor with others, have any of you seen any examples of that?
  - [Will pray for you with no intention of praying, stating you are a Christian to relate to people]
  
- Romans 2:24 states, “As it is written: “God’s name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you.” What responsibility do we have when we cause others to stumble on God’s name? Additional context in verses 21-23. What are the ways described in 21-23 that caused others to blaspheme (use God’s name without reverence) God’s name?