



The Principle of Humility

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Focus The third commandment says to not take God's name in vain. God's name reveals His holy character. A humble Christian values and reveres the names of God, in actions and speech.

Fun Can you recall what you were doing during this month five years ago? Do you remember where you were ten years ago?

Review Key Scriptures: Exodus 20:7; Ezekiel 36:20–23; Romans 10:13; John 1:12; 17:6,11–12; Philippians 2:9

1. Prayer

John 16:24

When we use God's name to pray for a selfish purpose, we take His name in vain. When we pray for His will, we correctly use His name.

2. Prophecy

Jeremiah 14:14–15; 23:25; Ezekiel 22:28; Exodus 20:7

People sometimes share their opinions and say that God said it. This is using the name of the Lord in vain, and when someone does that, God will not let that person go unpunished.

3. Proclamation

Leviticus 19:12; 21:6; Psalm 66:2; 100:4

The best way to proclaim the name of the Lord is to praise Him with gratitude. It's arrogant to treat the name of the Lord in a common manner or to use God's name to curse.

Group Dynamics Idea Ask your group to think of acquaintances or relatives to invite to one of our Easter services. Make a list of the names, so your group can pray for each

person. Have some invitation cards on hand for your members to hand out. The group can pray for people to come to church and be changed from the inside out.

Discuss

1. Read Philippians 2:9. What separates God's name from any other name?
2. Many years before Christ was born, Israel went into exile because they profaned God's name by worshipping idols. Since God's character and His name are interchangeable, how does reverence for God's name influence how we live? How does faith in His name empower and set us apart as Christians?
3. In the Old Testament, the Jewish people said "the name" rather than pronouncing God's name in Hebrew as YaHWeH. Read Romans 10:13 and John 1:12 in the New Testament. How has God honored the name of Jesus?
4. Acts 19:13–16 tells how the name of Jesus was improperly used. Read Acts 19:17. What difference caused the name of the Lord to be magnified?
5. Read James 4:3 and John 16:24. Compare the results of vain and selfish prayer with the results of praying for the will of God in His name.
6. The first petition in the Lord's Prayer is "Hallowed be Thy name." How does this relate to the third commandment? In what way does keeping this commandment make prayer effectual?

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- The most arrogant way you can profane the name of God is to call yourself Christian and not live like Christ.
- It is prideful to use God's name in an unworthy manner.
- We need to remember how holy God is by valuing His name with humility.
- Jesus took our punishment on the cross so we can turn back to God if we have profaned, or made common, His name.
- When we keep God's command to honor His name, we will have a better relationship with Him and with others.

Prayer

Lord, forgive us for the times we have not revered Your name as we should. We receive Your forgiveness by faith, and we thank You, Jesus, for taking our punishment on the cross. We want to magnify Your holy name in our lives as we pray and listen to obey Your will. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Read, sing, and pray the Psalms during worship time. Know which chapters are David's prayers, which chapters bring adoration to God, and which chapters express the cries of the heart. Apply specific Psalms to lead the group in unity and lift up the name of God.