

God's Good Rules Lesson 4

"God's Holy Name"

Lessons from the Bible: Exodus 20:1-17

Respect God's Name

For today's lesson, we are going to discuss the most important name of all. We have been learning about the Ten Commandments, which God gave to Moses for all the people of Israel after rescuing them out of slavery in Egypt. The Ten Commandments are for us, too, since God has rescued us out of the slavery of sin! These rules help us to live safe and happy lives with one another. Today, let's look at the third commandment. You'll find it in **Exodus 20:7**. Turn there with me now and let's read it together.

"Do not misuse the name of the LORD your God, because the LORD will not leave anyone unpunished who misuses his name."

- What do you think this rule means? *(Allow students to answer.)*

Now this commandment can seem pretty straightforward. I have heard it taught in a very simple way before, and perhaps you have heard this explanation before. First, I'll explain the simple way most people explain this commandment, and then we'll look at it a little closer and see if there is more that we can learn from it.

- Most of the time, when people talk about the third commandment, they talk about not using God's name as a cuss word. Sometimes, when people are angry or frustrated, they will say God or Jesus in a way that is not kind, sometimes with other words that God does not want us to use because they are not kind or helpful. God definitely does not want us to say unkind, hurtful things when we are upset. I've also heard people refer to our Lord as "the old man upstairs." Now that does not even make sense. God is not an old man, and I've never seen a staircase I can climb to get to him, because he's already in my heart. Saying things like that shows that we do not really respect God. His name is holy, special, and that's how we should treat it.

Let's read Psalm 30:4:

- ***Sing praises to the Lord, you who belong to him. Praise his holy name.***
- **Instead of using God's name when we are angry, we should use it when we are happy and celebrating!**
- Another way to think about God's name is to think about more than just his name, Yahweh. When people talk about names, sometimes they don't mean what to call them, but they mean a reputation, a way of thinking about someone. For example, C.S. Lewis has a reputation for writing really good books. Toby Mac has a reputation as a Christian musician. Walt Disney was a real person who lived not too long ago, but most people only know Disney as a place or a movie company. We probably have not met any of these people. But we know their names and know their reputations.

When we become Christians by asking Jesus to forgive us of our sins and live in our hearts, we become like Jesus. Romans 10:13 tells us,

"For 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

We trust in Jesus's reputation, in the things he has done. He lived a perfect life and then died on the cross so we don't have to be punished forever for our sins. When we turn to Jesus, we expect certain things. We expect him to love us and forgive us and to help us obey him. When people see a Christian, they expect certain things. They expect us to be kind, generous, and helpful, for a start. When we love God, we should show it with our actions. We should be kind and helpful and friendly and obedient to our parents and teachers. When we don't do the things the Bible tells us to, even though we say we love God, it gives God a bad name, a bad reputation. If we still disobey and are unkind and unhelpful, does that help people get to know how loving and amazing God really is? (Allow students to answer.) Of course not. When we say we love God but act like we don't, that is misusing God's name.

One last thing before we move on to our craft. We now see that we break the third commandment, **“You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God,”** when we use the name of our Lord in hurtful, angry ways, and when we act in ways that damage God’s reputation by showing the world around us that we do not really believe that it is important for us to obey the Bible.

Now let’s look at a Bible verse that will help us remember to do good things, instead of just trying to not do wrong things. Turn with me to Colossians 3:17.

“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

This week, as you practice keeping God’s name holy, remember to thank God for loving you and sending Jesus to die for you and then live in your hearts! Let whatever you say and whatever you do show to everyone you meet that God is good. Remember this week, we keep God’s name holy by our words and our actions. Let’s wrap up by listing some ways you can keep the third commandment this week by doing everything and saying everything in the name of Jesus.

(List student examples on the board. Some ideas include thanking God when they make a touchdown in football, reading their Bible during free time at school, praying before lunch even if no one else does, sitting with the lonely kid, doing their chores before they are told and doing them well, sharing with and helping younger siblings, etc.)

End in prayer.

10 Commandments in simple terms.

1. Put God first
2. No fake gods
- 3. Respect God’s name**
4. Respect God’s day of rest
5. Respect your parents
6. Do not kill people
7. Respect marriage
8. Do not steal
9. Do not lie
10. Do not be jealous

Bible Verse

Psalm 119:1-2: "Joyful are people of integrity, who follow the instructions of the Lord. Joyful are those who obey his laws and search for him with all their hearts."

Activities:

- **Craft:** JESUS Name is Holy poster

Have students choose a coloring poster of Jesus' name. Decorate it however they want so they may hang it in their room or house to remind them just how beautiful and Holy His name is.

- Holy Name of Jesus – coloring
- JESUS – Coloring

Watch – A fun music video to help learn the 10 Commandments:

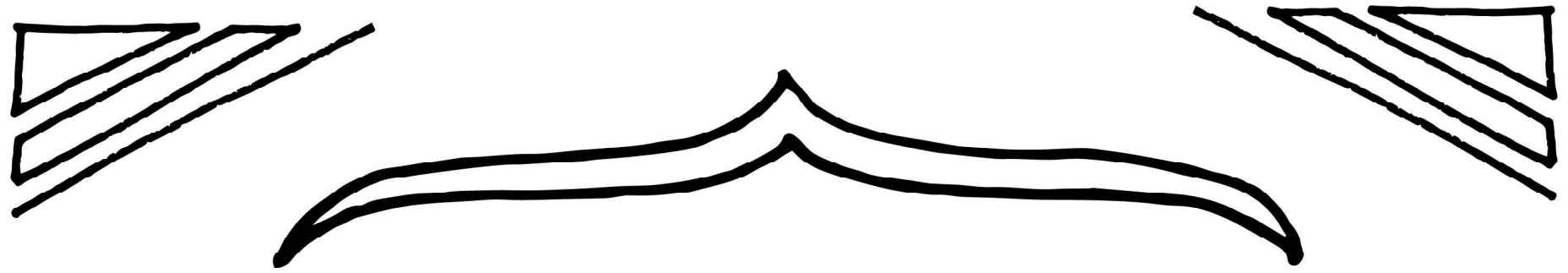
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2hB5Gqo8Vo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsUW8kOyG6I>

Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went! Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day & Week! Until we can meet again

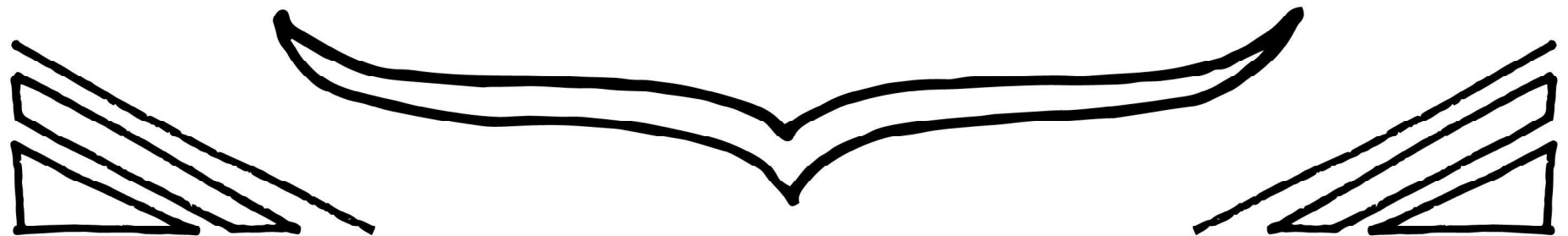
~ *Teacher Chrissy*

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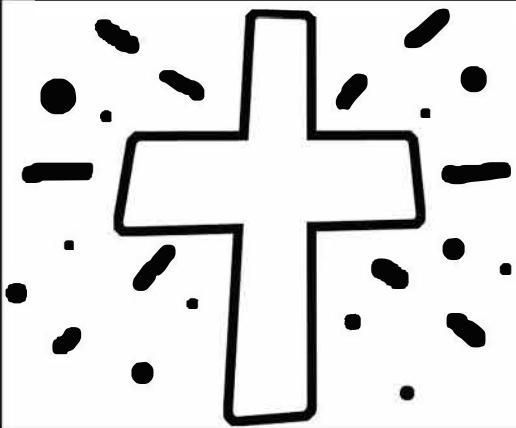


The Most Holy Name of

JESUS



JESUS



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16