

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON

DATE: April 28, 2019

SUBJECT: THE TEN COMMANDMENTS: The Third Commandment (2 of 2)—The Proper Use of the Lord's Name

SCRIPTURE: Exodus 20:7; Acts 4:12; Philippians 2:9-11; Ephesians 1:20-21; Revelation 13:6; Matthew 6:9; Psalms 8:1; Matthew 1:21

AIM: God's name is above every name on earth and in heaven. As the Lord's children, we should never use His dear name in a vain way. We should pray that His name be sanctified and exalted in all the earth. We should believe in His name, call His name in prayer, bless His name, love His name and give glory to His name.

MEMORY VERSES TO CHOOSE FROM: Philippians 2:9, 10a and 11 (Therefore also God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, That in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ... And every tongue should openly confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.); Psalms 8:9 (O Jehovah our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth!)

SUGGESTED SONGS: 63 (By His Word); 100 (I Can Spell a Lovely Name); 101 (The Name of Jesus is So Sweet); 102 (O How I Love Jesus); 9311 BSS Daniel Song 11 (Let The Name of God be Blessed); 3118 (How We Love the Glorious Name)

CRAFT IDEAS: 1) Create Word Art using the various names/titles of God from the Bible. For example: Jesus, Emmanuel, the Lamb of God, Father, Prince of Peace, Jehovah, Elohim, I Am, Yeshua, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Abba, Son of David, Son of Man, Son of God, Holy Spirit, etc. See <https://wordart.com/create> for assistance in making a sample.



BACKGROUND: In recent weeks we have been covering the Ten Commandments, which show us what kind of God we have and what kind of heart He has for us. The third commandment that the Lord gave the children of Israel is: **“You shall not take the name of Jehovah your God in vain, for Jehovah will not hold guiltless him who takes His name in vain” (Exodus 20:7).** In the first lesson on this commandment we saw that we should not treat the Lord's name in a disrespectful way, and that our behavior should not bring dishonor to His name. This week we will talk about the proper use of the Lord's name.

APPROACH: The more important a person is, the more names and titles ascribed to him. For example, Queen Elizabeth of England has many titles, or is addressed in many ways: *Her Majesty*, *Her Royal Highness*, the *Queen*, etc. Another example is the President of the United States. Besides the title of *President*, the president is also known as the *Chief Executive*. He is also the *Commander-in-Chief* of the armed forces. He can be called *Mr. President*, *President Lincoln*, or *Sir*. Each of the titles has a different meaning and significance. Because the Lord Jesus is the most important person in the whole universe, He has many titles, each of which has a different meaning and significance. (Ask the children if they can name some titles of the Lord Jesus.) In today's lesson, we will concentrate on the name He took when He came to the earth: **Jesus**. Jesus means *Jehovah the Savior*, or the *salvation of Jehovah*. In the Old Testament, God's people used the name of *Jehovah*; in the New Testament, we use the name of *Jesus*.

CONTENT:

I. The Lord's Name is Unique, Exalted and is the Name Above Every Name (Acts 4:12; Philippians. 2:9-11). When God came to the earth, He took the name of Jesus (Matthew 1:21). The name of Jesus has been given the highest place in the whole universe. His name is an exalted name and His name is above every name (Philippians. 2:9-10). It also is the only name under heaven given among men by which men can be saved (Acts 4:12).

II. God's enemy, Satan, hates and even blasphemes the Lord's name (Revelation 13:6). Today, God's enemy, Satan, tries to keep men from knowing the Lord's name by having it brought to naught (nothing). It is very common today to hear the Lord's name used in many vain, disrespectful ways. Sadly, many people today use the Lord's name as a curse word, or to swear by (utter an oath). Some speak His name in a joking way, while others willfully despise His name. They do not believe that He is God and therefore do not fear Him. All this is Satan's attempt to damage and discredit the name of the Lord.

III. For this reason, we as children of God, should pray that the Lord's name be sanctified on the earth (Matthew 6:9). To be sanctified is to be made holy or to set apart from anything common. We should pray that people would know that the name of Jesus is the most special and unique name in all the earth. How excellent is His name in all the earth (Psalm. 8:1)!

IV. Instead of being those who take the Lord's name in vain, we have the privilege to call His dear name in a prayerful way. As we call His name in our prayer, whether softly or silently...

A. He is very near to us. *Jehovah is near to all who call upon Him (Psalm 145:18a).* The Lord Jesus is always with us and very near to us. Whenever we pray, "Lord Jesus, I love You. Thank You that You are always with me," we can enjoy His nearness.

B. He rescues us from distress. *In my distress I called upon Jehovah and cried out to my God. He heard my voice from His temple and my cry before Him came to His ears (Psalm 18:6).* When we are frightened, maybe by a thunder and lightning storm, or when we are alone in the dark, we can pray "Lord Jesus, help me, I'm scared." Since He is near us and always with us, He hears us and can help us not be afraid.

C. He rescues us from trouble. *And call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver you, and you will glorify Me (Psalm 50:15).* When we find ourselves in any kind of trouble, or are experiencing any kind of problem, at home, school, or anywhere, we can pray, "Lord Jesus, I need You, please help me to solve my problem." He can help us in any kind of trouble and help us solve any kind of problem.

D. He rescues us from sorrow and pain. *...I fell upon trouble and sorrow. But I called upon the name of Jehovah... (Psalm 116:3b-4a).* When we call the Lord's name in prayer, "Lord Jesus, help me not be sad," He can comfort us whenever we feel sorrowful.

E. We are protected from all our enemies. *I called upon Jehovah...And from my enemies I was saved (Psalm 18:3).* If there is someone in our neighborhood or school that bothers us or perhaps even bullies us, we can call the Lord's name in prayer, "Lord Jesus, save me and protect me," and we will experience His protection.

F. We enjoy His goodness, forgiveness, and lovingkindness. *For you, O Lord, are good and ready to forgive and abundant in lovingkindness to all who call upon You. (Psalm 86:5).* When we offend the Lord, we can acknowledge our sin and pray, "Lord Jesus, forgive me," and we will experience His forgiveness.

Note to Teachers: Many of the verses cited in this lesson mention "calling on the Lord." Since the children are young and considered by us as not regenerated yet, we would not want to encourage them to call on the Lord in the same way adults may do as a way to contact the Spirit. However, we would certainly encourage them to pray using the Lord's name in a simple way as mentioned in the above examples.

SUGGESTED APPLICATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM: *Please pray and fellowship over which applications to cover. Please do not try to cover all the applications. It is sufficient to cover just **one or two applications** which are appropriate for the age group of the children you are serving.*

As children of God (those who belong to God) we should:

- **Not join in Satan's evil plan to discredit the name of the Lord.** We should never speak the Lord's name in a vain, disrespectful way. Whenever we mention His name it should be in a positive manner so that people around us will sense the sweetness and virtue of that name;
- **Sanctify God's name by our behavior.** In school, at home and in children's meeting, we should honor the Lord's name. When someone prays, we should pay attention.
- **Learn the proper use of the Lord's name.**
 - We should **love His name.** *...And those who love Your name will exult in You (Psalm. 5:11b).* We should love His name to such an extent that it grieves our heart when we hear His name taken in

vain by anyone around us. If this were to happen, we may be able to take the opportunity to help them realize how precious the Lord's name is. Jesus is the highest name in the whole universe (Phil. 2:9-10). This is the only name under heaven given among men by which we can be saved (Acts 4:12). Only Jesus died for our sins and only Jesus can save us!

- We should **praise His name**. *Let them praise the name of Jehovah, for His name alone is exalted (Psalm 148:13a)*. Every Lord's Day morning in the children's meeting we have the opportunity to praise His name. During the Opening Time especially, we can sing to Him with our whole heart, and **bless His name**. *Sing to Jehovah, bless His name (Psalm 96:2a)*. We can also praise His name throughout the week.
- We should **openly confess His name**. *Through Him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise continually to God, that is, the fruit of lips confessing His name (Hebrews 13:15)*. We should never be ashamed of His name. Rather, we should openly confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:11). We should be willing to sacrifice our pride and "lose our face" to tell our classmates and friends about the Lord Jesus. We can also invite them to the children's meeting, the children's summer Bible camp and neighborhood children's meetings.
- We should **walk in His name and give glory to His name**. *For all the peoples will walk, each in the name of his god; But we will walk in the name of Jehovah our God forever and ever (Micah 4:5)*. We should walk worthily of our calling as children of God "so that the name of the Lord Jesus may be glorified in us (2 Thessalonians 1:12a)". Our behavior is very important. If others around us know that we belong to the Lord and we behave in a way that is pleasing to the Lord, they will notice. This is to give glory to the Lord's name.

Adapted from *Bringing Children from Adam to Christ—The Ten Commandments*, Vol. 3, Lesson 7, and the Church in New York City Children's Meeting lessons: 8/2/98; 6/16/02; 8/4/02; 7/20/2008; 4/27/14