



GOD'S TOP TEN

My Name - Exodus 20:7

MAIN THING

Respect God's Name

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:7, 1 Kings 8:18, 1 Kings 8:20, 1 Kings 8:29, 1 Kings 9:3

ICEBREAKER

Children can be really cruel to each other, and one of their favorite things to do is call each other names. What are some of the more creative names you used as a child or have heard kids use today?

OPENING THOUGHT

As a kid, my dad used to always tell me to remember that I am a Kelley. "That name needs to mean something. Everything you do will reflect the Kelley name." My Pappaw Kelley was the same. He wanted the Kelley name to mean something. He wanted people to have a certain reaction when they heard that name. He wanted it to be respected and held in high honor. As believers, there is no higher name than the name of God. The ancient Hebrews who copied the Old Testament by hand in the days before printing presses had great respect for the name of God. They would stop and perform a special ceremony, and wash themselves and use a special pen before writing the name of God. There is power in His name, and His name is worthy of that kind of respect. That's what this study is all about.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from this weekend's message?
2. When you were growing up, what did your parents teach you about using God's name? Were the terms, "Oh my god," "Jesus Christ" (as a swear word or exclamation), etc used regularly? What about around your friends?
3. Why do you think that God would list this as one of the Ten Commandments? What really is the big deal? It's in the same list as "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not commit adultery"; sins with huge and devastating consequences. This is just about a name, a word. Does this deserve to be on the same list as the others? Why or why not?
4. In the Old Testament, God gave King Solomon instructions to build a temple for the Israelites to worship Him in. Look up 1 Kings 8:18, 1 Kings 8:20, 1 Kings 8:29, and 1 Kings 9:3. Was the temple for God or for God's Name? Can you separate the two?

LIFE APPLICATION

5. In this weekend's message, we heard that there are two ways to misuse God's name: by our words and by our actions. What are some common ways that Christians today misuse God's name, both in word and action?

CHALLENGE

Believe it or not, this is one of the most disobeyed of all the ten commandments. We live in a society that has no respect for God's name. What actions do you need to take this week to start respecting God's name more than you have been, both in word and action?