



Cuyahoga  
Valley Church

# SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 2.4.24  
Exodus 20:7 // Rick Duncan

Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip  
Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

## ① CONNECT (10 MIN)

Have you ever been in a situation where someone's name was used in a way that didn't honor their character or identity? Share your experience and feelings about this.

## EXPLORE (30 MIN)

### Create Context (5 min):

Watch the Sermon Recap Video [HERE](#).

### Study & Discussion (25 min)

- ② Let's Review: In the sermon on Sunday, what did Rick teach about the idea of "taking the Lord's name in vain?" How did Rick explain what this means?
- ③ Pastor Rick mentioned that there is more to a name than just how to address someone. Ask members of the group to look up these verses and then read aloud one-by-one. Discuss the implications and importance of God's name being "holy and awesome." Why does the Bible consistently talk about His "name"?
  - Refer to Psalm 9:10; Psalm 20:7; Proverbs 18:10; Jeremiah 10:6; Zechariah 14:9; Matthew 6:9; Acts 4:12; Philippians 2:9-11.
- ④ Explore John 14:13-14, where Jesus talks about asking in His name. Discuss the balance between reverence for God's name and boldness in approaching God in prayer.
- ⑤ Read Matthew 23:1-6. The scribes and Pharisees in the New Testament said all the right things, but they lived for God in order to bring personal gain to themselves. How have you been tempted to use the name of God to accomplish your own purposes and plans or for your own personal gain (this could include benefit to your reputation, to your finances, to your self-esteem, etc.)?
- ⑥ One element of "not taking the Lord's name in vain" is related to teaching right things about God to those whom we are training up in the Lord or discipling.
  - Why is it so important to make sure we know and teach about God correctly?
  - How can we correct one another in grace and truth when we in the church unintentionally teach or believe untrue things about God?



- The good news for us is, we know we cannot keep the law perfectly on our own. We need Christ! And the person and work of Christ have accomplished this for us – now we need only to turn to and trust in Him. How does this give us hope as we consider what it means to “not take the name of the Lord in vain?”

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Westminster Shorter Catechism](#)
- The Gospel Coalition - Knowing the Bible: Exodus:  
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowning-the-bible-exodus/>

## APPLY (20 MIN)

- Reflect on times when you might have casually used God’s name, in speech or action. How can this understanding of Exodus 20:7 lead to a change in behavior?
- Identify practical ways we can honor God's name in our everyday lives, especially in our speech and conduct.

## PRAY (15 MINS)

- Pray for a deepened reverence for God’s name in your life and community.
- Ask for God's help in honoring His name in all aspects of life, from speech to actions.



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# EQUIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 2.4.24

Please take a moment to share these announcements with your group.

## CVC WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### Women's Breakfast

You are invited to join the Women's Ministry of CVC on Saturday, February 17th from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM at Cuyahoga Valley Church for a Women's Breakfast! This time of fellowship will include space for discussion, teaching, and prayer. Breakfast will be provided free of charge. Please register [HERE](#) so that we can know how many breakfasts to order! And remember this breakfast is open to all women - so please invite your friends! You can register by texting the keyword "breakfast" to 440.276.5575, or by filling out the form



## CVC YOUTH

### CVC Youth - Winter Retreat

At CVC Youth's Winter Retreat, we are inviting students into a life of freedom in Christ, not out of obligation, but out of obedience. Join High School and Middle School students from all around North East Ohio as we enjoy one of our favorite weekends of the year. Winter Retreat 24, night & day will be filled with new friendships, fun memories, new adventures, and lots of laughs. You can register [HERE](#).



## SAVE - THE - DATES

CVC Young Adults Superbowl Party: February 11 at 6:30pm

Walk Worthy Men's Conference: March 2, 2024