



The third commandment explicitly prohibits using God's name in the wrong way. Implicitly the passage says that you are to take up the name of the Lord in an honorable way.

There are two very important words in Exodus 20:7. One is “nasa” which means to lift, to carry, to take. The second is “shav” meaning emptiness, vanity, falsehood, or to make worthless. So, “don’t take the name of Yahweh your God in vain,” means “don’t take God, or anything that His name expresses about His reality, in vain.” God is I Am, absolute being, Jealous, Holy, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Jesus, Word of God, King of kings, Lord of lords, “the Alpha and the Omega” (Revelation 21:6). That is who He is, His name, His reality, His Godness. Don’t take Him or any aspect of His being, His name, in vain.

Psalms 8:9 (NASB95) O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Proverbs 18:10 (NASB95) The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe.

The third command in Exodus 20:7 is a mandate for men to take God seriously.

You can help your family take God seriously by teaching them to...

IDENTIFY THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD’S NAME

(Exodus 3:13-15; Psalm 8:1, 34:3)

- The announcement of the name.
- The adoration of the name. Jesus said “hallowed be thy name”.

IDENTIFY HOW WE VIOLATE GOD'S NAME.

(James 5:12; Matthew 5:33-37; Matthew 6:5-9)

We violate God's name when we use it...

As a curse, casually, as camouflage.

- a. Emptiness, vanity- designates anything which is unsubstantial, unreal, worthless, either materially or morally "to no good purpose."
- b. To use the Lord's name in false promises, to swear by falsely.

Leviticus 19:12 (NIV) "Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.

- c. To take the Lord's reputation lightly.
- d. To live unbecomingly of the name.

IDENTIFY HOW GOD'S NAME WILL BE VINDICATED.

- Punishment for those that violate the name.
- Promises for those that venerate the name.