

Living In Relationship To God

The Second Commandment

A Story:

A man had a lamb that he was taking to market. Three thieves wanted to steal the lamb so they devised an interesting way to get it. As the man traveled to market one of the thieves met him and said, "Why are you carrying that dog on your shoulder?" The man laughed and said, "That is a lamb not a dog!"

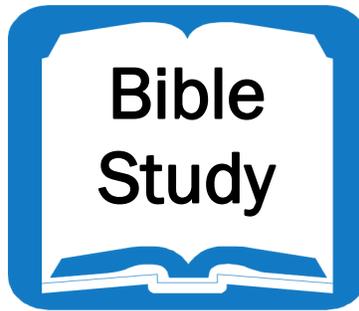
The next thief met him a little farther down the road and said, "What a fine looking dog you have." Puzzled the man again said, "That is a lamb not a dog!"

Finally, the third thief met the man and said, "Sir, I don't think they will allow you to take your dog to market." With that the man thought, "If three different people say that this is a dog, then surely they must be right." So he put the lamb down and walked on. If he would have looked back he would have seen the thieves running off with his lamb.

Hearing something often enough might blind us to the truth. How can this happen when we hear God's name used in wrong ways?

God reminds us in His Word to take good care and be on guard against misusing His holy name in any way.

From Luther's Large Catechism



What do the following passages have to say about the use of our tongue?

Day One: Psalm 126:2

Day Two: Philippians 2:11

Day Three: Psalm 119:172

Day Four: Romans 14:11-12

Day Five: James 1:26



Concordia Seminary
Center for Stewardship
Rev. Wayne J. Knolhoff, Director



For Discussion:

Luke 17:11-19

Read the above passage and discuss the following questions:

1. Christian stewardship always begins with God giving to us. What did Jesus do for the men He met along the way?
2. Christian stewardship calls for a response. How did the men respond to Christ's gift?
3. Which of the ten men would you call a good steward?
4. Christian stewards are thankful people. What are some things you are thankful for?
5. How can you show thankfulness in your daily life?

Stewardship Truth

Living in relationship to God means that I honor Him with my tongue and my life.