

The Law of Respect

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



THE SECOND COMMANDMENT



1. If you think the underlying principal of the Second Commandment is the value of respect, consider Sr. Joan's story about the 2005 Lutheran Convention. Why do you think she gives "respect" such a prominent position? Given the critical outcome of the Lutheran experience, can you explain why so many of us seem to be having such difficulty holding others in respect? What would you have to know or feel to have respect for all people?
2. What has the phrase, "taking or using the name of God in vain" meant in your life? As Sr. Joan suggested in the session, why do "the righteous" commit this sin more than anyone? Do you experience or have you experienced this in dealing with "righteous" people? Have you considered yourself "righteous?"
3. This session asserted that using God's name in vain has less to do with God's name and more with appropriating God to fit our personal agendas. Where do you see this "appropriating" taking place in society? What reaction do you have towards it? Is it ever okay to claim the authority of God's name?