

## JOIN US FOR...

December

# 6

### CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

7th annual CFK to bless kids who fall through the cracks by providing Christmas presents a fun day to kids in need. Your time and financial support is needed. Please see booth in the lounge or email: [cfk@ourelement.org](mailto:cfk@ourelement.org)

December

# 9

<sup>6p</sup>  
<sub>-8p</sub>

### WOMEN'S ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

Celebrate the Season with Food, Frivolity and Fellowship with our annual Ornament Exchange. Childcare is provided upon request. Last names: A-M bring Appitizer, N-Z bring Dessert

December

# 13

7a-1p

### PLANTING ROOTS RUMMAGE SALE

We're selling for our new home, and we're collecting all sorts of good stuff! You can still drop off your donations, & we still need volunteers: [plantingroots@ourelement.org](mailto:plantingroots@ourelement.org)

December

# 24

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Three services to choose from: 7, 9 & 11pm. Childcare will only be available at the 7pm.

## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY.

*Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).*

*There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot we may hand out popsicles too help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate you can visit [www.elementroots.org](http://www.elementroots.org). - The Element Team*

*Matthew 7:15-23*

## SERMON ON THE MOUNT

*42. What's In A Name*

### TODAY'S VERSES:

*Exodus 20:7  
Matthew 7:15-23  
2 Samuel 18:33*

*Luke 10:41  
Luke 6:46  
John 1:12*

*1 John 3:1  
Matthew 25:23*

### MY NOTES:

## EXODUS 20:7

**“You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.**

**MATTHEW 7:21-23** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

If you are anything like me, this is a scary set of verses. Jesus is speaking to people who have knowledge of Him, are emotionally invested in Him, and are actively involved in ministry but yet He does not “know” them. The word “know” means intimate knowledge, or relationship. Imagine the fear that grabs hold of these individuals when Jesus says, “I never knew you; depart from me,” personally I have shivers just thinking about it.

This week, we learned about the power of names, specifically, God’s name. In Exodus, the third commandment God gives us is “You shall not take the name of your Lord God in vain...”

**Have you ever used someone’s name to help you open a door?**

**Before this sermon, what was your understanding of the Third Commandment, “You shall not take the name of your Lord God in vain?”**

Names hold fundamental power, and when we use names the power of that individual name is transferred to us. Using someone’s name implies that we have a relationship with that person and they are in agreement with us. Both Matthew 7 and the third commandment are about hypocrisy. If we claim Christ’s name, we must act as Jesus would actually act. God’s name opens doors that no other name can; if you claim His name you are made an heir of salvation, an heir of eternity, and an heir of Glory. If you use God’s name should be a corresponding reality that you actually have a relationship with Him. When Jesus says, “depart from me,” He is showing that it is not

enough to have orthodox doctrine, emotional involvement, and be active in ministry, there needs to be a spiritual reality to it...there needs to be a relationship behind it.

How do we develop a spiritual reality?

- First we MUST submit our will to His will. Why? Because He is our King. That means we cannot hold on to what we believe or want to be true, we live the truth that He has revealed to us.
- Second, in order to be truly free in this relationship, we must understand grace.

**What are some things that you try and hold on to as right and wrong for you?**

**Why is it so hard for us to let go of what we want to be right or wrong and simply trust God?**

If we do not submit our lives to Jesus by saying, “I give up my independence. Show me what the will of the Lord is, and I will do it. I don’t care how I feel. I don’t care what my friends say. I don’t care what popular opinion is. I don’t care what the experts say,” you are taking God’s name in vain. Pride runs deep into humanity, we like to believe that we are in control, and we have the power to determine what is right and wrong for ourselves. We cannot make the jump from our state of pride to a place of submission without God’s help. But God has helped us because He loves us. If you are struggling with this, repent of your sins and ask Jesus to be the King of your life.

**How have you dishonored God’s name?**

C.K. Chesterton says, *“The only good argument against Christianity is Christians.”*

**How do you take the name of Jesus as your personal Lord and Savior?**

Timothy Keller says, *“Lord, my intellectual faith, my intellectual doctrine is incomplete. My emotional love for you is cold. My best deeds of service are tainted with selfishness, but I ask because of what Jesus did for me, I ask because he died my death, he lived the life I should’ve lived, because he did these things for me, O Lord God, welcome me, accept me because of what he did, not because of anything I’ve ever done. I know the minute I do that, O Lord God, all of the value of his life and record will accrue to me.”*