



Teachers' Manual

2004

The Names of God

LESSON PLAN 5 THE NAMES OF GOD

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to do
the work of the ministry

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This lesson:

The Holy Spirit (Comforter)



Thy word is a light unto my path

Unless otherwise noted, scriptures are from the Authorized Version of the Bible. (AV=KJ)

This month we will focus on developing a more personal relationship with God. Because in order for us to grow spiritually we must have a strong, viable relationship with God. This requires us to know God.

Knowing God necessitates us to develop an intimacy with Him through

prayer and studying His word. The depthness of your relationship with God depends solely upon how much you are willing to invest in it. Throughout the bible we are told that God longs to have a relationship with us.

This month we will look at the attributes and characteristics of God as

we move forward in our relationship with Him.

*And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: **but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.***
Daniel 11:32

What's In a Name ? - Lessons Preview

Please read prior to first lesson

In biblical days personal names were more than labels to distinguish one person from another. Names expressed not only identification, but also attributes. There was significant meaning attached to a name. The names served as an explanation of the character and various attributes a person possessed. Remember what Abigail said about her husband Nabal? "He is just like his name — his name is Fool" (1 Sam 25:25).

God's covenant names reveal His character and His relationship to us in the various areas of our lives. The names or titles given to God in the Bible reveal much about His characteristics - who He is, what He is like, and what He does. When the Bible uses the phrase the "name of God" or "in the name of the Lord" it refers to His total person - all that He is.

There are three main names of God: Jehovah, Adonai, and Elohim. They are indicated throughout the Bible in very unique ways. The word *Jehovah* (*Yahweh* / *I AM*) is often spelled out as Jehovah. It

is also spelled as LORD (all capital letters). Jehovah is the most frequently used name of God in the Bible. It expresses the totality of God and what He is and what He represents. It is in Genesis chapter 3 when God first revealed Himself as "I AM". Because the Hebrews misinterpreted the Commandments in referencing "taking the Lord's name in vain" they feared to pronounce the name of *Yahweh* (Ex. 20:7; Deut. 5:11). Therefore they substituted in text with the word Adonai.

In the Bible *Adonai* is spelled out *Lord*, with the first letter capitalized. **Jehovah** and **Adonai** are both translated in the New Testament Greek and as **Lord** in most English versions of the Bible (see Mark 12:36).

The word *God* is used to represent *Elohim* in our English bibles. You first see reference to Elohim in Genesis 1:1. Jonah and Daniel used Elohim almost exclusively.

Other Names Referred to as Names of God

Jehovah Nissi - The Lord my banner (actually this was the name of an altar Moses built [Ex. 17:15-16]).

Jehovah Shalom - The Lord send peace. This too was the name of an altar (Judg. 6:24).

Jehovah Jireh - The Lord will provide. (This was the name Abraham gave to the location where God provided a ram in the bush [Gen. 22:14]).

Jehovah Makaddesh—The Lord Sanctifies (this was taken from the statement in Ex. 31:13 when God told Moses 'I am Jehovah who sanctifies.'

There are numerous other names listed today as names of God. This month we will only take the primary ones found in the scriptures to enlighten our understanding of God and who is to us.

That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone *is* JEHOVAH, *art* the most high over all the earth
(Ps 83:18). (KJV)

Studying For Yourself

Below is a list of names and meanings commonly known as the names of God. We invite you to study the scriptures for yourself to see where the names derived from. Although today they are being called the names of God, many of them are actually names of locations and/or altars.

Elohim (God) means "might or strong one"; it denotes the power and pre-eminence of God and is especially used in relationship to creation and strength. (Genesis 1: 1; Psalm 68: 1)

Adonai (Lord) means "master, sovereign ruler or Lord" and generally denotes the authority and position of God. (Psalm 68: 32; Isaiah 6: 8-11)

Yahweh or Jehovah (Lord) means most likely the self-existent one (I am who I am or I am the One who is) and denotes God's personal name and His eternity. It is often used in relationship to God as redeemer and covenant keeper. Yahweh is the most common name for God in the Old Testament. God's personal name was so sacred to most Jews that they feared to write or say it lest they misused it and usually substituted Adonai for Yahweh. Jehovah is an English word created from the other two to stand for God's personal name. (Genesis 2:4; Exodus 3:14; Psalm 68:14)

El Shaddai means "God Almighty" and pictures God as the all powerful source of

blessing and comfort. (Genesis 17:1; Exodus 6:3; Psalm 68:14)

El Elyon means "God most High" and pictures God's strength and sovereignty. (Genesis 14:18; Psalm 9:2)

El Roi means "God who sees" and denotes God's personal care and presence (Genesis 16:13)

El Olam means "Everlasting and Eternal God" and pictures God's eternity and infinite strength. (Genesis 21:33; Isaiah 40:28)

The following are the main Old Testament Yahweh/Jehovah **compound names**:

Yahweh Jireh means the "Lord provides" and was used by Abraham when God provided a sacrificial lamb instead of Isaac. (Genesis 22:14)

Yahweh Sabaoth means the "Lord of hosts" (hosts is sometimes translated almighty or army) and pictures God as the commander of the heavenly armies. (Joshua 5:14; I Samuel 1:3; Psalm

24:10)

Yahweh Rophe (or Rapha) means the "Lord who heals" and denotes the physical and spiritual healing power of God. (Exodus 15:26)

Yahweh Shalom means the "Lord is peace" and denotes the lack of tension, conflict and strife in God. (Judges 6:24)

Yehweh Nissi means the "Lord is my banner" and signifies that the battle is the Lord's. (Exodus 17:15)

Yahweh Tsidkenu means the "Lord our righteousness" and signifies God as the only source of true righteousness. (Jeremiah 23:6)

Yahweh Maccaddeschem means the "Lord our sanctifier" (or the Lord who makes you holy) and signifies that God is the one who sets people apart and makes them holy. (Exodus 31:13; Leviticus 20:8)

Yahweh Raah (rohi) means the "Lord our Shepherd" and denotes God's loving care, protection and provision for His people. (Psalm 23:1)

Unit 1
Lesson 5

The Holy Spirit - Our Comforter

Memory Verse: Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come (John 16:13).

Lesson: John 14:16-18; 22-26

Read John 14

Scripture Lesson Text

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

18 ¶ I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is

it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 **He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.**

25 ¶ These things have I spoken unto you, being yet

present with you.

26 **But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.**

Lesson Exposition

This chapter continued Jesus' discourse to the disciples from chapter thirteen (*while they were sitting at the table partaking of the Lord's Supper*).

The disciples had difficulty comprehending Jesus' need to leave them. So, Jesus discerned their frustration and sadness

and told them not to let their hearts be troubled. For the next three chapters He spoke words of faith to them but in their distressed condition they had trouble understanding what He meant. All they knew was that they loved Jesus and could not bear

the thought of His leaving.

The Coming Comforter

John 14:16-18; 22-26

Verses 16-18 - Jesus had been the disciples friend, counselor, teacher, and guide. He had been their

Comforter and now it was near His time of departure. Jesus saw the fear and sorrow in disciples and told them He would become their mediator by praying to the Father to send them another Comforter. This "other" Comforter would step into His office and perform the same ministry to them that Jesus had been doing.

The Comforter would be more than just one who soothed their fears and lifted their sorrows. He would be what Jesus had been to them. The word Comforter here means Paraclete (one called along side; one called to aid).

Jesus told them that this Comforter would abide with them forever. His assignment is not short term.

Jesus wanted them to have the same confidence as they had with Him being physically present.

Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth because the Holy Spirit will lead Believers into all truth but there are those who will reject the truth because they are not able to see Him or sense Him. They will choose to walk by sight, not faith.

(A side note - Although Jesus was talking about those who reject Christ, I think it is important for us to recognize that sometimes we as believers can put blinders on the leading of the Holy Spirit).

Jesus then told the disciples that the Holy Spirit was not only going to be with them but He will dwell inside of them. The intimacy level will be taken to new heights and dimensions. No longer will they have to meet at one location trying to get in the presence of God. He will dwell inside of each Believer. Jesus assured them that He would not leave them comfortless. Remember the Centurion in Matthew 8:5-13? His servant was sick, so he approached Jesus and asked Him to heal his servant. Jesus said "I will come and heal him." But the Centurion said 'just speak the word and I know my servant will be healed.' This was a shadow of what the Holy Spirit would do - it can reach across boundaries, miles and manifest healings. It is not boxed in to one territory.

Verses 22-26 - Judas *(not the one who betrayed*

Jesus, for he had already left the table) did not understand how Jesus could manifest Himself to them without others seeing Him. One has to remember, this was a bit hard to comprehend. During Jesus' earthly ministry the disciples were thinking that Jesus was soon to set up an earthly kingdom with them having a vital role in it. But now He was telling them that He had to leave. They were bewildered. Nonetheless, Jesus knew that He had to continue to instruct them because they would soon understand.

Jesus explained to Judas that the assurance of having the Comforter to dwell in you was only available to Believers - those who loved the Lord.

It is awesome to think that God has chosen to make His abode in man. It is not to be taken lightly. Today it seems that we get so caught up in the manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we fail to yield to the other ministry gifts that accompany Him.

Remember we said the Holy Spirit stepped into

the office that Jesus had during His earthly ministry. He not only comforts us but He convicts us of sin. He enlightens the word to us. He sheds the love of God in our hearts. He enables us to respond to the needs of others. He makes intercession for us, and so much more.

The more time we spend in prayer the more sensitive we become to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Look at the disciples. They had spent three years of intimacy with Jesus and after His ascension and they were filled with the Holy Spirit, they immediately submitted to the leading of the Holy Spirit. They knew the voice of Jesus just as we are know His voice through the leading of the Holy Spirit.

How well do you know His voice?

Food For Thought

If someone (Christian or a sinner seeking salvation) came to you and wanted to be filled with the Holy Spirit, how would you go about ministering to them?

What different steps do you take with a sinner?

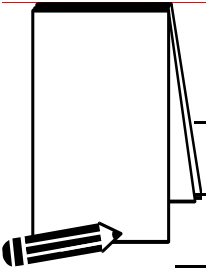
What scriptures would you use to bring clarity to the one seeking the indwelling of the Holy Spirit?



“If ye then, being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him? Lk. 11:13

1. Why was there a need for the Holy Spirit to come?
2. What is another name for Comforter and what does it mean?
3. What disciple asked Jesus “... how is it that you will manifest yourself unto us, and not unto the world”?
4. What is the role of the of the Holy Spirit.
5. What are some things we can do to increase our sensitivity to the Holy Spirit?
6. Why did Jesus refer to the Comforter as the Spirit of Truth? How does this attribute of the Comforter help us today?
7. Do you know the leading of the Holy Spirit? How?
8. What does Elohim mean?
9. What does El Shaddai mean?
10. When did God first reveal Himself as Yahweh?

Lessons In Review



A series of horizontal lines for writing, starting from a red top line and followed by multiple black lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page, providing a guide for handwriting practice.

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EQUIPPING THE SAINTS
TO DO THE WORK
OF THE MINISTRY



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Visit our website at www.equippingministries.com

He Is Everything To Me

In His Life, Christ is an example. In His death, He is a sacrifice. In His resurrection, He is a conqueror. In His ascension, He is a king. In His intercession, He is a high priest. Christ is full and sufficient for all His people. He is bread, wine, milk, living waters,

to feed us; He is a garment of righteousness to cover and adorn us; a Physician to heal us; a Counselor to advise us; a Captain to defend us; a Prince to rule us; a Prophet to teach us; a Priest to make atonement for us; a Husband to protect us; a Father to pro-

vide; a Brother to relieve; a Foundation to support; a Root to quicken; a Head to guide; a Treasure to enrich; a Sun to enlighten; and a Fountain to cleanse.

~John Spencer (1630-1693)

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