



WEEK 3

What is GOD's name?

Icebreaker Question

If you could re-name yourself one word that sums up who you are, what would that word be? (feel free to get serious or have some real good fun with this one)

Watch the Sermon Short Video Clip

Key Teaching Points & Scriptures

Exodus 34 (NIV)

5 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the Lord. **6** And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, **7** maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

8 Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped.

His name is YHWH.

Wanna see what it looks like in Hebrew?

יהוה

יְהוָה

- A group of people called the Masoretes came along in the 6th century and ultimately added markings in the Hebrew Bible that represented vowel sounds, but they struggled adding them to YHWH because his name was rarely if ever spoken.
- So even today, we are somewhat speculating as to the vowel sounds that should occur between those consonants.
- But our best bet is this...

His name is YAHWEH.

The Hebrew people were so afraid to misuse God's name, they never spoke it and replaced it instead with ADONAI which translates "The LORD."

God wants you to know him and what sets him apart from any other god.

One of the biggest mistakes we make here in modern America is two-fold:

Over-generalizing God

Over-fictionalizing gods

Ephesians 6 (NIV)

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

NEXT STEP:

Make YHWH your God above all other gods today.

Discussion Questions

What is your biggest takeaway from today's teaching?

Of all the ways YAHWEH identifies himself in Exodus 34, which descriptor jumps out to you the most and why?

In what ways have you experienced yourself or others "over-generalizing God?"

Why do you think we tend to "over-fictionalize gods," the enemy, Satan, etc.?

What "god" is clamoring for your allegiance right now? What steps are you or should you take to struggle against it and choose YAHWEH instead?

Have you ever definitively decided to make YAHWEH your God over your whole life? If not, what holds you back from doing that?

What is the most important thing we can be praying for you about this week?

Pray

And now we get to talk to YAHWEH, just like Moses did. Isn't that amazing. Use this time to allow folks in your home/group the space to talk in their heart or even out loud to YAHWEH God and to make a definitive choice today to worship Him and Him alone. And ask the Lord to help us in our struggle against the enemy who is clamoring even now for our allegiance and worship. And make your requests known to this, our awesome God who is so compassionate and gracious and patient!