

MY NAME IS JEHOVAH RAPHA

MY NAME IS, PART 3: JEHOVAH RAPHA: THE LORD IS MY HEALER

None of us are enjoying a perfect, pain-free life. We all need to be made well because of something that is broken in our bodies, emotions, or situations. We may need to be healed of pain from the past or anguish in the present. Many people need healing from uncertainty about their future. Whatever the case, the need for healing in most people's lives is real and deep. That's why God's name of Jehovah Rapha is so relevant for us today.

THE BIG IDEA: God heals in so many ways, more than just physically.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

** Remember the goal is to use the questions to generate discussion, not to complete every one.*

1. What is your sweet and sour experience so far this year in your life?
2. How did circumstances influence the people's attitude toward God? Describe times in your own life when your circumstances have caused your attitude toward God to fluctuate.
3. *With your Bible or Bible App, [read Exodus 15:22-26](#).*

²² Then Moses led the people of Israel away from the Red Sea, and they moved out into the desert of Shur. They traveled in this desert for three days without finding any water. ²³ When they came to the oasis of Marah, the water was too bitter to drink. So they called the place Marah (which means "bitter"). ²⁴ Then the people complained and turned against Moses. "What are we going to drink?" they demanded. ²⁵ So Moses cried out to the LORD for help, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. Moses threw it into the water, and this made the water good to drink. It was there at Marah that the LORD set before them the following decree as a standard to test their faithfulness to him. ²⁶ He said, "If you will listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his sight, obeying his commands and keeping all his decrees, then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you."

[Exodus 15:22-26 \(NLT\)](#)

4. How can these people turn from prison to praise to protest so quickly? What is the essence of their complaint?
5. How did Moses react to the circumstances? What does his example teach about how we should respond to difficult circumstances?
6. The waters of Marah were bitter and God made them sweet. What areas of bitterness in your life have been healed or might still need healing?
7. On what condition does God base His promise to keep the Israelites from disease?

The verb from which Rapha is derived occurs 67 times in the Old Testament. Though it often refers to physical healing, it usually has a larger meaning as well, involving the entire person. Rather than merely healing the body, Jehovah Rapha heals the mind and soul as well. This Hebrew verb is also used in other ways. For example, God "heals" water, land, and nations, and he "repairs" an altar.

8. Describe a time in your life when breaking *Jehovah Rapha's* commands caused you suffering or even sickness.
9. God tested the Israelites with adverse circumstances, thus uncovering what was in their hearts. Describe ways in which you have experienced God testing you. How did you respond?

10. What does this passage say about God's control over sickness and health?
11. How have you experienced God answering your own prayers for healing?
12. Are you most open to God's leading during feast or famine? Why?

GOING DEEPER

Read the following passages, considering the name Jehovah Rapha and how its meaning relates to the context of the passage.

- Psalms 38
- Psalm 103:1-5
- Psalm 147:1-6
- Isaiah 53
- Isaiah 57:18-20
- Jeremiah 17:14
- Matthew 8:16-17
- John 9:1-7
- James 5:14 – 15

THINK ABOUT IT

The Hebrew word Rapha means "heal," "cure," "restore," or "make whole." Shortly after his people left Egypt for the Promised Land, God revealed himself as Jehovah Rapha, "The LORD who heals." The Hebrew Scriptures indicate that God is the source of all healing. As you pray to Jehovah Rapha, ask him to search your heart. Take time to let him show you what it contains.

MOVING FORWARD

Jehovah Rapha is our God who heals. Do you need healing? Does some area of your life need healing? Do your relationships need healing? God hears your prayers and sees your tears. Keep praying and rely upon Him for healing!

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"I am the LORD who heals you."

Exodus 15:26