
AKA – God Almighty

EL SHADDAI - אֱלֹהֵי שָׁדַי - GOD ALMIGHTY

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE [Genesis 17](#)

In the Old Testament, the name, *El Shaddai*, appears at least 40 times.

Many of those times are in the book of Job and several are in the book of Genesis.

John 11:16

“Thomas, nicknamed the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let’s go, too—and die with Jesus.”

John 20:24-25

²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. ²⁵ They told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he replied, “I won’t believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side.”

Genesis 17:1-4

¹ When Abram was ninety-nine years old, **the LORD appeared to him and said,**

“I am El-Shaddai—‘God Almighty.’ Serve me faithfully and live a blameless life.

² I will make a covenant with you, by which I will guarantee to give you countless descendants.”

³ At this, Abram fell face down on the ground. Then God said to him, ⁴ “This is my covenant with you: I will make you the father of a multitude of nations!

Genesis 17:17

“Then Abraham bowed down to the ground, but he laughed to himself in disbelief.

“How could I become a father at the age of 100?” he thought. “And how can Sarah have a baby when she is ninety years old?” So Abraham said to God, “May Ishmael live under your special blessing!”

Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: AKA – *God Has A Name For Every Situation*

Message: Part 3 – God Almighty

Speaker: Brock Wright

Date: February 27, 2022



Connect (20min)

*If helpful, break into groups of 3-4 or men & women to share and pray for *Connect*.

1. EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

- Who were your heroes and/or favorite superheroes as a kid? Who did you look up to or want to be like?
- If you could have one superpower what would it be and what would your superhero name be?

2. OPEN UP – 📖 Read [Psalm 91](#). Respond with Praise to God & Prayer for One Another.

Message Discussion (45min)

1. MIGHTY MINUTE

*Set a timer for 1 Minute, then have your group list off as many reasons why GOD is qualified to have the Name EL SHADDAI – The Lord Almighty! – ***How is God Mighty?***

2. EL SHADDAI - אֱלֹהֵי שַׁדַּי - GOD ALMIGHTY

Notes: *El Shaddai* is one of the Hebrew names for God. It is typically translated in English as, “God Almighty.”

El is the Hebrew word translated, “God” and is usually combined with other words that describe a character trait of God. Most Bible scholars say that Shaddai is derived from the Hebrew word, “shaddu” meaning mountain.

As a result the most common interpretation of the name El Shaddai is God Almighty or God the “Overpowerer.”

It speaks to God’s might over man’s frailty. Other Bible scholars have said that, Shaddai is from the Hebrew root word, “Shad” meaning “breast”. In addition to El Shaddai speaking of God as being almighty, El Shaddai also speaks to His ability to nurture and satisfy. These scholars say that the name speaks to God as being nourishing, satisfying and supplying all our needs as a mother would her child. Even though “Almighty God” is the more common translation, God is in addition to being almighty also nurturing and sustaining. We see this all throughout the Old Testament.

*Ask the following questions and the share what you’ve experienced, and what you’ve heard others express.

- Why is it easy or understandable for many people to believe in an *Almighty God*?
- What are some reasons, even doubts...that make it challenging for many people to believe in an *Almighty God*?

3. TWO RESURRECTIONS & A THOMAS

📖 Share the Reading of [John 11:1-44](#); [12:9-11](#) and [John 20:1-31](#)

a. *Thomas*, like many of the disciples, experienced the incredible teaching and works of Jesus...

*Briefly share some teachings or works of Jesus that have inspired your faith and changed your life?

b. *Thomas*, like all followers of Christ, had questions and moments of doubt through his experience...

*Briefly share a couple questions or moments of doubts that you’ve had in your faith journey with Jesus?

“When somebody predicts their own death and resurrection and pulls it off, we should go with whatever that person says.” – Andy Stanley

4. I’M A BELIEVER BUT I DOUBT A LITTLE

📖 Share the Reading of [Genesis 17:1-22](#).

- a. Have you ever had an *embarrassing, laughable or face-down* experience with God?
Or, is there an area of your life where you have a hard time acknowledging “God is Mighty.” -- Briefly share.
- b. How can we see *belief & doubt* as part of the human experience with God throughout the Bible story, and our lives today? How this encouraging or challenging to you?
- c. How do you typically process and express your faith, questions and doubt? Who or what do you go to?

Application & Prayer (15min)

Put your hope in El Shaddai today. He knows you, He loves you, and He will sustain you when you trust Him to fulfill His promises in you and through you.

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER: *Break into groups of 3-4 or Men & Women for Prayer*

- **Where in your life do you need *El Shaddai* today?** *Share one specific example.*
- **In response to this message, discussion and scripture...how can we Pray for you?**
- **Share & Pray for one another.**

RESOURCES

Commentary:

www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/what-is-the-significance-of-el-shaddai.html

www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/what-is-the-meaning-of-the-name-shaddai.html

www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/El-Shaddai-El-Shadday

www.focusonthefamily.com/family-qa/wrestling-with-doubt-and-disbelief

Books: *The Power of God’s Names*, Tony Evans. *The Names of God*, Ann Spangler.

YouVersion Bible Plan: www.bible.com/reading-plans/2026-100-names-of-god