

CALL ON JESUS' NAME

Call, take refuge, believe, trust and be saved in the name of the Lord.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ All the way back in the first book of the Bible, we see God's proper name – "Yahweh Elohim" (translated "LORD God") – mentioned ten times in Genesis 2 alone.
- ❖ When we get to Genesis 4:26, it tells us: "... as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD."
- ❖ This was a milestone moment in human history. People had begun to pray to God by name, but there was still a lot more to learn about what it really meant to "call on the name of the Lord."
- ❖ Jumping to Exodus 33, Israel had sinned terribly and fallen into idolatry, and God told Moses that He was done with them. To paraphrase, He said, 'You're on your own. I'm not travelling with you anymore.'
- ❖ Hearing this, Moses entered into intense prayer and intercession on behalf of Israel, until God relented and committed to maintaining His presence with them.
- ❖ Then Moses made an incredible, audacious request: He said in Exodus 33:18, "Please, show me Your glory."
- ❖ God immediately gave Moses a positive response, telling him how his request would be granted: God said: "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." (Exodus 33:19)
- ❖ Even before the 'big reveal', the Lord began to detail what calling on the name of the Lord signifies: When we "call on His name", we actually *express faith and trust in the divinity of God and His perfect, holy character.*
- ❖ Now, let's remind ourselves of what God had to say about Himself as He revealed His glory to Moses: Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there and proclaimed the name of the LORD. ⁶ ... "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, ⁷keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."
- ❖ (Refer to Ezekiel 18 where God explains that children and parents aren't *punished* for each other's sins. Each person is judged *individually* for their actions: good or evil, punishment or blessing, as the case may be).
- ❖ So, a name is more than just a sequence of letters. Beyond the letters and sounds is the *personality* and *character* of the one who bears the name.
- ❖ Now we can understand that when Israel called on the name of Yahweh Elohim (the Lord God), they were

KEY SCRIPTURES:

Colossians 3:12-17; Exodus 34:5-7; Luke 1:30-31; Matthew 1:20-21; Acts 2:21, 22:16

- calling on His mercy, His grace, His longsuffering and goodness and truth.
- ❖ Beyond "Yahweh Elohim", the Israelites formulated other names for God based upon their personal experiences with Him, such as:
 - ✚ El-Shaddai → God who supplies
 - ✚ Jehovah Shalom → God my peace
 - ✚ Jehovah Raphe → God who heals
 - ✚ Jehovah Nissi → God my banner
 - ✚ Jehovah Jireh → God who provides
 - ✚ Jehovah Tsidkenu → God my righteousness
 - ✚ Jehovah Shammah → God who is present
 - ✚ Jehovah Rohi → God my shepherd
 ...as well as other names.
- ❖ Then, about 2,000 years ago, the angel Gabriel was sent from by God to a virgin by the name of Mary, telling her that she was going to give birth to none other than the Son of God. Gabriel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name JESUS." (Luke 1:30-31; see also Matthew 1:20-21 where Joseph is told to name this baby JESUS.)
- ❖ Let's break down the Hebrew/Aramaic name "Yeshua" a little further: "Ya" is a short form of Yahweh; "ya-sha" means "rescue, deliver, or save." In the context of Jesus' name, it means "Yahweh Saves"!
- ❖ In Acts 2:21, Peter quoted the prophet Joel, saying, "... it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved" (see Joel 2:32a).
- ❖ That includes you and it includes me! All of us can call on the name of Jesus (Yahweh Saves) and receive eternal life through Him!

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Review the various names of God in the lesson and what they reveal about His character. Which of them have you personally experienced?
2. Call on the name(s) of the Lord, according to your current need(s). Call on Jesus, God's saving name.

PRAYER TIME




Lord, when I call Your name, You answer my call. Thank You, thank You, thank You, in Jesus' name!




Start-up: What is the most memorable call you have received (or made) when someone (or you) needed help? Share as much as you feel comfortable to.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

 (Reminds me/Confirms)
  (New idea)
  (Think about)

 (Do this)
  (Speaks to my heart)
  (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD