



The Lord's Names

Lesson Overview

1. What's My Name?

Discover the name on your back. Discuss why we have names and what they do for us.

2. Read

The Lord has many names. Each name reveals one of His qualities. We are baptized *in His name*. pp. 1-2.

3. Activity: The Lord's Names

Identify the Lord's names and discover what one of His names means using Potts' *Concordance* or newchristianbiblestudy.org. p.3

New Church Concept The Lord

In [the Writings] **the Lord** is used exclusively to mean the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, and He is called the Lord without the addition of the rest of His names. Throughout heaven He is acknowledged and worshipped as Lord, since He has all power in heaven and on earth. This He also commanded when He said, "You call Me Lord, and you are right, for so I am." John 13:13. Furthermore after the Resurrection the disciples called Him Lord. *Arcana Coelestia* 14

FaithBuilder 1 | Lesson 2 | The Lord

What's My Name?

Write the names of a superhero, comic book character, game character, or person from the Bible on pieces of paper. As students come in, tape a name to each student's back. Students must discover the name on their back by asking questions. People may only answer "yes" or "no" to each question. Make sure the names you have picked are guessable in a reasonable amount of time! If students have difficulty, give more clues until they can all guess. If students guess quickly, give them a second name to guess.

1. Did you identify with "your" character? If so, in what ways?
2. Names evoke feelings. Just hearing a name can bring a soft quality to mind, make you happy, or unhappy. Why is that?
3. Why are names important? What difference would it make if people did not have names? What can a name do for you? Why do some family names carry power?
4. What is "name dropping" and why would someone do it?
5. Why do people wear T-shirts with names on them?
6. The Lord has many names. Do His different names bring up different ideas or feelings for you? If so, what do you associate with His names?
7. Think of a person everyone in the group knows. How many names can you think of to describe that person? Think of what he/she does, and what he is to different people. (e.g. father/mother, spouse, sibling, friend, coach, etc.) How does knowing these names help you understand the person better?

Read

Many people have tried to figure out the relationship between Jehovah in the Old Testament and Jesus in the New Testament. One of the ways in which Jesus identified who Himself was through the names people knew from the Old Testament.

When God had appeared to Moses, asking him to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt to freedom Moses had asked Him,

"When I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" and God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you....' This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations." (Exodus 3:13-15)

With the aid of the name "I AM" Moses did a series of powerful miracles and freed the children of Israel from slavery.

When the Lord came on earth and people saw the miracles He did they wondered who He was. When one man asked Jesus directly, "Who are you?" (John 8:25) Jesus replied, "He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things Which I heard from Him.... He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." (John 8:26, 29) At the end of the conversation Jesus used the powerful name "I AM".

"Most assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them.... John 8:58-59

The truth that Jehovah and Jesus were One provoked those who heard Him, and Jesus hid Himself.

Towards the end of His life Jesus referred to Himself as the "I AM" again. When Judas betrayed Jesus by guiding a detachment of Roman soldiers to Gethsemane where He was praying, Jesus said,

"Whom are you seeking?" They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I AM." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, "I AM," they drew back and fell to the ground. John 18:4-6

Once again, the name "I AM" had a powerful effect.

The Lord has many names in the Word. Each name communicates a different aspect of His life. It tells us something about His Divine Love, His Wisdom and His Holy Spirit. The more names we know Him by the more we can know of His qualities, who He is, what He loves and cares about.

When we are baptized, either as infants or adults, we are baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is like saying we want to learn about Him, to be clean in spirit, so that we can be in His family, be related to Him, be His child. It is saying that we want to be known as someone who is linked with Him, who believes and thinks as He does, who acts from the kind of love that He does—in fact who acts from His love.

Baptism in the Lord's name gives us a certain power. Through baptism we are "enrolled and numbered in heaven among those who in heart receive the Lord in His second coming." (*Liturgy*, 150) We come into spiritual association with angels living in heavens where the Lord is acknowledged in His second coming. By association with His name we have the power to overcome the challenges we face in life. This becomes more and more true as we read the Word for the sake of getting to know the Lord and leading a good life.

When it is stated in the Word what a person's name is...it means that the name embodies something to which attention should be paid, for 'calling by name' is knowing a person's character. *Arcana Coelestia* 1896

That "Jehovah's name" or the "Lord's name" does not mean the name itself, but all things of love and faith, is from the spiritual world. There the names used on the earth are not uttered; but the names of the persons who are spoken of are formed from the idea of all things known about them combined into a single word. In this way names in the spiritual world are expressed; consequently names there, like all the other things, are spiritual. The names "Lord" and "Jesus Christ," even, are not uttered there as on the earth, but in place of those names a name is formed from the idea of all things known and believed respecting Him; and this idea is made up of all things of love to Him and faith in Him. This is because these in the complex are the Lord in them; for the Lord is in everyone in the goods of love and of faith that are from Him. As this is so, the quality of everyone there, in respect to love to the Lord and faith in the Lord, is immediately known if he only utters "Lord" or "Jesus Christ" by a spiritual expression or spiritual name. Those who are not in any love to Him or faith in Him are unable to speak His name, that is, to form any spiritual name of Him. *Apocalypse Explained* 102.2

The Lord's Names

Discover the meaning of the Lord's names.

1. Circle all the names of the Lord in the quotations below.
2. Using resources such as Potts' *Concordance* or www.newchristianbiblestudy.org find out more about the Lord by researching the meaning of *one* of His names.
3. Share what you discover with others.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given...and His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

I and My Father are one. (John 10:30)

Jesus breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit". (John 20:22)

God is one and indivisible, and the Divine and the Human are one, and in one person. (see *True Christian Religion* 135)

The true Christian faith is that God is one in essence and in person, and the Lord Jesus Christ is that God. (see *Doctrine of Faith* 35)

Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals. (Revelation 5:5)

"Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty.... He is the King of glory. (Psalm 24:8,10)

A star shall come out of Jacob; a scepter shall rise out of Israel. (Numbers 24:17)

I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End...who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. (Revelation 1:8)

Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' Hosanna in the highest!" (Mark 11:9; Luke 19:38; John 12:13)