

LEARNER SHEET: THE LORD'S NAME

Exodus 3:13-15



THE BIG IDEA

God deserves respect.

BIG FUN IDEA

Do something creative to express the meaning of either your name or one of God's names—draw a picture, sculpt a statue, write a poem, construct with interlocking blocks, paste a collage, and so forth. Bring your work to class the next week and create a “gallery” in your church. Run the “Names” exhibit for a month, and invite the whole congregation to attend!

BIG SERVING IDEA

Go through the church directory and pick out five “forgotten” names—members who, for whatever reason, you haven't seen at church for a while. Make and send them a card to bless and brighten their day.

PRAYER TIME

Remember your partner's prayer needs—record them here.

DISCUSSION TIME

- **What kind of names/nicknames are you known by among family and friends?**
- **What kinds of names/nicknames are you known by among enemies?**
- **Tell about a time when you did not hallow God's name but abused it. Were there consequences?**
- **What kinds of names is God known by among friends and family? What kinds of names is God known by among enemies? Which type of names do you think God prefers being known by? Why?**

LEARNER TAKE-HOME SHEET: THE LORD'S NAME

Exodus 3:13-15



Take this sheet home and keep it someplace near the dinner table like on the fridge. At least three times next week at dinner, use Prayer Time and one other family activity to make your confirmation learning come alive!

PRAYER TIME

Start a family “prayer journal.” Put a sheet of paper in a public space (on the fridge works great!), where family members can name people or concerns they would like to pray for during the week. Remember to include these in your own personal prayers, and at least once a week, pray together as a family for those in your journal. Once a week, wipe the slate clean and start over!

TALK TIME

- How were you named? In honor or memory of a friend or relative? After a biblical character? For the meaning, look, or sound of your name? Sit down together as a family and share the stories of your names.
- Have you ever called a family member or a friend a bad name (either out loud or just in your head)? What happened next? How did you feel? How do you think the other person felt? What did such name-calling do to your relationship with this person?
- There are many ways to call on God’s name, including those listed by Martin Luther in the Small Catechism: in a superstitious manner; to curse, swear, lie, or deceive; and in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. In which of these ways have you called on the name of God? What can you as a family do to help one another use God’s name appropriately?

WEB TIME

Do an Internet search to look up and discuss the meaning of your family’s first names. Is knowing the meaning of your name important? Why? What about knowing how or why you have your name?

RITUAL TIME

Write the name of each person in your family on a slip of paper and place the slips in a bowl. Draw one name each day. Give that person a blessing. Make the sign of the cross on the forehead and say, “(Name), may the God who calls you by name be the name you call on in praise and prayer. In the name of the Father +, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit. + Amen.”



KEY WORDS

Keep a family white board someplace near the dinner table, and write these words on it. Try writing a family definition for each one during the week.

IDENTITY
AUTHORITY
RELATIONSHIP
RECOGNIZED

