



## GROWTH GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Fall Quarter - Lesson 8 - Week of October 30, 2022

#### Lesson: MANY NAMES, SAME GOD

**Bible Verses:** Psalm 91:1; Joshua 5:14; Exodus 3:14; John 8:58; John 18:4;  
Genesis 1:1; Genesis 22:14; Exodus 15:26; Exodus 17:15; Judges 6:24

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Who was your favorite teacher in school?
2. What is your favorite movie?

### DISCUSSION

The vast majority of the Old Testament was written in Hebrew. The book of Ezra and most of Daniel were written in Biblical Aramaic. In Hebrew, we see that God has different names. These Hebrew names help us understand the nature of God. They emphasize who He is and what He does.

**ELOHIM:** The Hebrew word for God is El. Elohim is a name of God. This word/name stresses His power, rulership, and majesty. Genesis 1:1: *“In the beginning God (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth.”* The word Elohim is used approximately 2500 times in the Old Testament.

1. Why do you think God uses the plural form Elohim in the very first verse of the Bible?
2. What does Genesis 1:1 tell us about God?

**EL-SHADDAI:** El-Shaddai means God on the mountain; strength; control; and comfort. Psalm 91:1: *“He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the Lord, my refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust.”*

1. What are these verses teaching us?
2. In what sense has God been your mountain, strength, and protection?

**ADONAI:** This word/name stresses that He is Lord, Master. Joshua 5:14: *“He said, No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the Lord. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, ‘What has my lord to say to his servant?’ ”*

Joshua met an angel who was the commander of God’s army. Joshua calls him Adonai.

1. In what sense is God your Adonai, your Master?
2. When did He/God become your master in terms of how you live your life?

**Jehovah – Yahweh – Yhwh:** Do you have any idea why there are at least three different spellings for this name? Wikipedia says this: The Hebrew alphabet has no vowel letters, such as a, e, i, o, u, y. The letters only mark consonants, which means that you would have no idea how it is pronounced when you look at a word. Such alphabets are known as abjads. Traditionally, religious Jews today do not often say this name aloud. This is because it is believed to be too holy to be spoken.

This is why some people say Jehovah and others say Yahweh or some other pronunciation. This name means self-existence. He is the eternal God. God exists because He exists. He is life. This name is used over 6800 times in the Old Testament. It is not used in the New Testament at all, but we do see God's name, I Am, in the New Testament.

Jehovah means He Is. The name Jehovah and the name I Am are basically the same thing. So, when we speak of God, we say Jehovah or He Is. But when God speaks of himself, He says I Am. Jesus often claims to be I Am. Why would God's primary name be I Am or He Is and, what is He trying to tell us?

Read: John 8:58.

- What was Jesus telling them when He said I Am?
- Why did they pick up stones? What is He doing that is worthy of death?

Read John 18:4.

- What happened to the Roman soldiers when Jesus used the name I Am?

So, Jehovah means that God is eternal; He has life in Himself. He is the self-existent God. This also means that God must be the most powerful being in the universe. If a god stronger than Jehovah existed, he might kill Jehovah or control Him. We are thankful that Jehovah is the only God that we serve. Our God is God alone. There is no other God besides Him.

#### **Other Names of God:**

- Jehovah Jireh – The Lord will provide (Genesis 22:14)
- Jehovah Rapha – The Lord who heals (Exodus 15:26)
- Jehovah Nissi – The Lord my banner (Exodus 17:15)
- Jehovah Shalom – The Lord our peace (Judges 6:24)
- Jehovah Raah – The Lord my shepherd (Psalm 23:1)
- Jehovah Tsidkenu – The Lord our righteousness (Jeremiah 23:6)
- Jehovah Shammah – The Lord is present (Ezekiel 48:35)
- Jehovah Sabaoth – The Lord of hosts; commander of the armies of Israel (I Samuel 17:45)

What do these names teach us about God?

The fact that God is all knowing and He stands ready to aid us should help us in our faith.

**Prayer Focus:** God, help me to know you better.