

I SPEAK THE NAME OF *Jesus*

Connect group notes



FOR THE FACILITATOR

Encourage the group to take turns reading and answering questions. It is best to ask the questions as they appear instead of waiting till the end.

TOPIC : I just want to speak the Name of Jesus

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MEDITATION TIME:

(NOTE TO FACILITATORS: The first part of the notes is practical meditation on the passages of scripture using the basic questions below to

guide you. You may find that this exercise takes up all the time and you don't get to the rest of the questions and notes - that's ok. The real goal is to get people practicing chewing on scripture together)

**Take time to read the passages below
(suggest you read one verse each in a circle)
and then meditate on them as a group using
the questions below to guide you:**

Acts 4:8-12

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Jesus is

“the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.”

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

MEDITATION QUESTIONS:

- What verse or phrase stood out to you the most (your underline or highlight moment)
- What does that highlight mean to you - what do you think the Holy Spirit is saying?

- Why do you think the Holy Spirit is highlighting this verse to you at this time in your life?

GOING DEEPER:

Question 1: What has been your experience with people insisting on the Hebrew name for Jesus?

Jesus Name is all powerful. Therefore the enemy seeks to attack the Name of Jesus.

Where does the name Jesus come from?

Matthew 1:20-21

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is

conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Jesus's name was translated many times. It means the Lord is salvation. Every language has their own way of uniquely saying the Name of Jesus.

Speaking or declaring the Name of Jesus is not about how we say His name. But it's all about our hearts. Are they inclined towards Him? If they are then He will hear our prayers.

**Question 2: Is your heart inclined to Jesus?
Do you seek His will, His way?**

ACTION STEP

Where do we go from here?

- If we change from Jesus back to Yeshua we would be moving against what the Holy Spirit is doing. The Holy Spirit began the translation of the Gospel into different languages. He did not insist everyone speak Hebrew. In Revelation every tribe and nation worships in every language.
- The justification of using the name of Yeshua brings into doubt the very nature of Jesus. Jesus is not hurt by us calling his name in different ways. It is also not disrespectful if our hearts are submissive to Him.
- If we doubt God's name then we begin to doubt how the Bible has been translated.

Nothing in it was translated flippantly. If anything the Bible is becoming more and more accurate. God is able to protect and preserve His Word. Trust your Bible.

- If we go back to His Hebrew name we open the door to the yeast of the Pharisees. Matthew 16:11-12. We don't have to be Jewish to receive the Gospel. God made a way for the Gentiles to be saved. We are not supposed to be more Jewish we are supposed to be more Christlike. Salvation received through faith in Jesus alone.

We need to guard our hearts so that we don't get sucked back into religion and neglect a living relationship with the King of kings - Jesus. It's all about our hearts and not a set of rules or actions.