

The Name of God

Exodus 3:13-22 | Community Group Discussion Guide

Big Idea: *Knowing His identity changes our identity.*

1. Getting Started

Think about someone in your life whose name carries a lot of meaning for you — a parent, a close friend, a mentor. What is it about knowing that person that makes their name mean more than just a label?

2. Into the Text

In Exodus 3:14, God tells Moses his name is *I AM WHO I AM* — a name that refuses to be limited or defined by a single role or domain. The Egyptian gods each had a specific area they were in charge of. The God of Israel simply *is* — without origin or limit.

What difference does it make that the God who rescued Israel isn't just a specialist — a god of one thing — but the God of everything? How does that change what you can bring to him?

3. The Bigger Picture

In John 8:12, Jesus says *"I am the light of the world"* — using the same *I am* language from Exodus 3. In John 20:28, Thomas looks at the risen Jesus and says *"My Lord and my God."* Thomas isn't just relieved that Jesus survived — he is recognizing who Jesus actually is.

Has there been a moment in your own life when your understanding of who Jesus is shifted — when he became bigger or more real to you than he had been before? What happened, and what changed as a result?

4. Getting Personal

The sermon described discipleship as becoming fluent in the ways of Jesus — not through trying harder, but through genuine union with him. The Spirit of God living in us is what makes obedience possible, the way electrical current makes a wire useful.

Where in your life right now are you trying to live for God mostly through willpower? What would it look like to shift from trying harder to staying more connected — to the Word, to prayer, to community?

5. Moving Forward

Matthew 28:19 says we are baptized *"in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."* To be baptized into a name is to have your identity wrapped up in that person — like a marriage ring is a public sign of a real union.

If knowing God's identity is meant to change our identity, what is one specific way your identity should look different this week because of who God is? What would it look like to live as someone marked by his name?