The Names of Jehovah

God has more than one name—each represents a different aspect of His character. When you know which name to call, you will pray more effectively, and more specifically to your need.

The Bible declares that God is at work in the world and in the lives of those who believe in Him. His names illustrate that work in us.

Pass out name tags – Ask everyone to put on a name besides their first or last that describes them. How do others know you?

Game: win, lose or draw

1. Adonai - The Lord Most High. The One in control. First found in Genesis 15:2 and is used 434 times in the Bible. Because the Jews have a tradition of not pronouncing nor spelling out the promised proper name of God they often would use Adonai instead of YHWH. Adonai means Lord, Master, or Owner.

Is God the boss in your life? Is he in control?

1. Yahweh - The Lord. Yahweh is derived from the Hebrew word for “I AM. First found in Genesis 2:4 and is used 6519 times in the Bible! Yahweh is the proper name of God. It is translated as Lord and Master. By Jewish tradition this name is too holy to pronounce or write.
2. Jehovah Rohi (or Raah) The Lord is my shepherd. Rô’eh from which Raah derived, means “shepherd” in Hebrew. A shepherd is one who feeds or leads his flock to pasture. An extended translation of this word, rea’, which means “friend” or “companion.” This shows the intimacy that God desires between Himself and His people. When the two words are combined – Jehovah Raah – it can be translated as “The Lord my Friend.”
3. Jehovah Elohim - Creator, majestic. First appears in Genesis 1:1 and is used 2599 times in the Bible. This is the very first name given to God and is found in the very first verse of the entire Bible. This name denotes that God is the creator and majestic ruler over all. Elohim is actually the plural word and it shows that He is above all other gods. Some Bible verses using Jehovah Elohim: Genesis 1:1, Psalm 95:1-7, Psalm 146:5-6, Isaiah 40:25-29, Isaiah 54:5, Colossians 1:15-19.

Playdough – Create something in your image.

1. Jehovah Jireh - The Lord Will Provide. Or the Lord Who Provides. Only occurs once in Genesis 22:14. When Isaac inquired to Abraham where the lamb was for the sacrifice, Abraham responded that the Lord would provide. After God provided the ram for the sacrifice (as He promised and God always delivers on a promise) Abraham named that place on Mount Moriah Jehovah Jireh, meaning The Lord Will Provide. God always provides for us. Not always in the way or time that we want, but He always does.
2. Jehovah Rapha - The Lord our Healer. This name of God occurs only once in Exodus 15:26. Rapha is translated as “to heal” or make healthful. God is the Great Physician who heals his people. He heals our bodies, but more importantly, He heals and restores our spirits and souls. God has healed me from colon cancer, but more importantly, He has healed me from my past sin and life without Him.
3. Abba – Father. This is the “Distinguished title” of God in the New Testament. Found in scripture only three times, in the passages of Romans 8:15, Mark 14:36, and Galatians 4:6. Only two speakers use this term to refer to God: Jesus and the apostle Paul. That fact is telling in the relationship that both Jesus and Paul have with God and what both represent in the Christian faith.
4. Jehovah Shalom - For He, Himself is our peace. Occurs only once in Judges 6:24; Shalom means peace or without strife. When life throws you conflict and difficult times, remember that you can find peace in the arms of God.
5. Jehovah Nissi - God is our banner. (which represents victory). Occurs only once in Exodus 17:15. Nissi is translated as flag or banner. God is our banner and victory. He gives us hope and a future, and fights our battles. It is God who fights our battles and gives us victory.
6. Jehovah Tsidkenu -Yahweh Our Saving Justice. Look, the days are coming, Yahweh declares, when I shall rise an upright Branch for David; He will reign as king and be wise, doing what is just and upright in the country. In his days Judah will triumph and Israel live in safety, and this is the name He will be called Yahweh-our-saving-justice.
7. Jehovah Mekoddishkem -Yahweh Who Sanctifies You. And Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, 'But as for you, speak to the sons of Israel, saying, "You shall surely observe My Sabbaths; for this is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am Yahweh who sanctifies you...(Exodus 31:12).
8. Yahweh-sabaoth - Yahweh of Hosts - The "hosts" are the army of angels who serve God. Who is He, this king of glory? Yahweh of Hosts [Yahweh-saboath], He is the king of glory (Psalm 46:7, NJB); The LORD of Hosts [Yahweh-sabaoth] is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold (Psalms 22:10, NAB).
9. El Roi - God Who Sees.
10. El Shaddai - God Almighty or God the All-Sufficient One. The etymology is so ancient that Biblical scholars do not agree on the meaning of this name: I AM El Shaddai.
11. Jehovah shammah - The Lord is present.
12. Jehovah Elohe Abothekem - The LORD GOD of Your Father.
13. Jehovah El Emeth - LORD GOD of Truth.
14. Jehovah El Gemuwal - The LORD GOD of Recompenses. (Jeremiah 51:56)
15. Jehovah Elohe Yeshuathi - LORD GOD of My Salvation. (Psalms 88:1)

Play win, lose, or draw. See directions below.

Play a game. Act out the name of each participant, building as you go around the circle.

How has God manifested himself in your life? Which “names” have you seen illustrated?

Names of God - Laurell Hubick

Elohim, the Creator

Jehovah-Shammah, the Lord is There

My Master, Adonai

El Elyon, the God Most High

Yhwh, You Are the Lord

Jehovah-Rohi, My Shepherd

Mekaddishkem sanctifies you

The Lord or Righteousness, Jehovah-Tsidkenu

Worthy is Your Name; Worthy of all my praise

El Roi, the God Who Sees

You are My Banner, Jehovah-Nissi

The All Sufficient One, El Shaddai

Jehovah-Jireh, You Will Provide

Rapha, the Lord Who Heals

Shalom, you are my Peace

The Lord of Hosts, Jehovah-Sabaoth

El Olam, the Everlasting God

Worthy is Your Name; Worthy of all my praise (2X)

When God Ran – PC+D

Almighty God, The Great I Am,

Immovable Rock, Omnipotent, Powerful,

Awesome Lord.

Victorious Warrior, Commanding King of Kings,

Mighty Conqueror and the only time,

The only time I ever saw him run,

Was when...

He ran to me,

He took me in His arms,

Held my head to His chest,

Said "My son's come home again!"

Lifted my face,

Wiped the tears from my eyes,

With forgiveness in His voice He said

"Son, do you know I still love You?"

He caught me By surprise, When God ran...

The day I left home,

I knew I'd broken His heart.

And I wondered then, if things could ever be the same.

Then one night,

I remembered His love for me.

And down that dusty road, ahead I could see,

It was the only time,

It was the only time I ever saw Him run.

And then...

He caught me by surprise.

And He brought me to my knees.

When God ran... I saw Him run to me.

I was so ashamed, all alone, and so far away.

But now I know, that He's been waiting for this day...

He ran to me,

He took me in His arms,

Held my head to his chest,

Said "My son's come home again!"

Lifted my face,

Wiped the tears from my eyes,

With forgiveness in His voice

He said "Son"

He called me Son.

He said "Son, do you know I still love You?"

He ran to me (When God Ran)

(I saw Him run to me)

And then I ran to Him

(When God ran)

When God ran

El Shaddai by Amy Grant

El-Shaddai, El-Shaddai *[means "God Almighty, God Almighty"]*  
El-Elyon na Adonai *[means "God in the highest, Oh, Lord"]*  
Age to age, You're still the same  
By the power of the name  
El-Shaddai, El-Shaddai  
Erkamka na Adonai *[means "We will love You, Oh, Lord"]*  
We will praise and lift You high  
El-Shaddai  
  
Through Your love  
And through the ram  
You saved the son  
Of Abraham  
Through the power  
Of Your hand  
Turned the sea  
Into dry land  
To the outcast  
On her knees  
You were the God  
Who really sees  
And by Your might  
You set Your children free  
  
*[Chorus]*  
  
Through the years  
You made it clear  
That the time of Christ  
Was near  
Though the people  
Couldn't see  
What Messiah ought to be  
Though Your Word  
Contained the plan  
They just could not understand  
Your most awesome work was done  
Through the frailty of Your son  
  
*[Chorus]*

Play a game. Each person draws one of the words below and must draw it on a chalkboard. Others have to guess what they are drawing. Then guess how the word relates to one of the names of God, and which one. Each person gets one point for guessing the right word first. Winner has the most points at the end of the game.

Sheep

Band-aid

Doctor

Architect

Farmer

Sidekick

Court

Contact lens

Army

Bathtub

Companion

Power

Peace

Father

Crutches

King

Baker

Ram

Pilot

Peace