

Volume 9 Issue 5

The word from Word of Life

Community and Personal Worship!

This year will be remembered as the time when there were major changes in worship styles. There have been congregations meeting in churches, small groups in homes, telephone conferencing, Facebook online, and the use of internet services like Zoom. Sadly, there are probably many not experiencing the fellowship and the encouragement they need for continued focus on the Scriptures and prayer. Isaiah 55:6 reminds us to "Seek the Lord" – study the scriptures, and "call on him" – turn to Him in prayer. Further in this same chapter we are reminded why this is important: Isaiah 55:8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.'

What are God's thoughts and what are His ways? There is not a single writer that can make a list for us. The only avenue to know God's thoughts and ways is through studying the scriptures and spending time with Him in prayer, as individuals. It is the responsibility of each person to develop a closer relationship with God. Thankfully, we are not left without resources to help with individual study.

There is a book that has the following questions on the back cover: Would you really like to know God? Do you 'hunger and thirst' for fellowship with God? Are you longing for God to be more intimate with you? These questions are asked by Pastor Dick Purnell, the author of "Knowing GOD by HIS NAMES".

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The beauty of Fall

How Does God Speak To You?

Did you know that God speaks to us continuously through sights, sounds, thoughts, impressions, other people, Scripture? Our part is to listen and be observant. Pray that God, through His Holy Spirit, will make you receptive and grant you insight and illumination to know and to do His will.

Cut on this line and insert in your Bible!

Worship Texts for September

- Sep 6—Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Ezekiel 33:7-9 Psalm 32:1-7 Romans 13:1-10 Matthew 18:1-20
- Sep 13—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:1-12 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35
- Sep 20—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 55:6-9 Psalm 27:1-9 Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30 Matt. 20:1-16
- Sep 27-Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-10 Philippians 2:1-18 Matthew 21:23-32

Worship Texts for October

- Oct 4—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-19 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46
- Oct 11—Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4:4-13 Matthew 22:1-14
- Oct 18—Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-13 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matt 22:15-22
 - Oct 25—Reformation Sunday Revelation 14:6-7 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36



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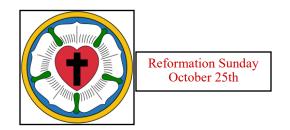
One evening a man leading the songs in his church stopped the music and said, "The name of God we are singing about comes from Psalm 18. By understanding His name you will have greater insight into who he really is." Pastor Purnell was intrigued with this idea and began the process of searching for God's names. While going through this exercise he realized that in biblical times a name meant something different from what it does to us today. In our culture a name is given to a child to identify him from other people – it does not have any reference to his inner being. A name in the Bible referred to a particular trait or characteristic about the person. There are several occasions when the Lord changed a person's name: i.e. Jacob ('deceiver") to Israel ("one who interacts with God"). So how many names did he find? At least 236! God has so many names because each one puts the spotlight on a particular aspect of His incredibly complex character.

Dick Purnell spent 13 years compiling a book that offers guidance in how to develop an intimacy with God in 31 days. Along with this study, he includes a chart with all 236 names of God that he has identified: Name – Characteristic – Key Passage. Going one step further, there is a section, "Procedure for Unlocking the Mysteries", where one name is chosen from the list for an in-depth study.

Almighty	All powerful	Revelation 1:8
Breath of the Almighty	Spirit gives life and strength	Job 33:4
God of Our Salvation	Saves, delivers, good, holy	1 Chronicles 16:35
King	Ruler over all, head of the eternal kingdom	1 Timothy 1:17
Light of the World	Dispels darkness, gives life	John 8:12
Prince of Peace	Brings peace to people and nations, source of security	Isaiah 9:6
Stronghold	Refuge, protector	Psalm 59:9
Word of Life	Jesus is God; God's living message	1 John 1:1

A source for this 69-page paperback book is www.thriftbooks.com. Costs range from \$4.69-\$10.39

We can adjust to various forms of worship styles as this is usually a community effort, but developing a closer connection with God can be more difficult as individuals if we do not have some support. Be an encourager to others as you share your thoughts about your encounters with God through prayer and scriptures.



- Word of Life Core Values
- Jesus is Lord.
- The Bible is our guide.
- Forgiveness of our sin leads to healing.
- Prayer changes things.
- Faith is God's gracious gift that saves.





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