

## HOLY IS HIS NAME

Have you ever imagined what it would have been like to be one of the 12?  
One of His disciples. The inner circle. One of Jesus' peeps.  
Watching Him everyday. The little nuances of this God with skin on.  
How He did ministry. How He balanced life. How He handled people.  
Waiting with great anticipation as to what great miracle He was going to pull off next.

But no matter where we find Him in scripture we can be assured of one thing...JESUS LEAD.  
And its no different when we come to Matthew chapter 6.  
Jesus is delivering a message to the multitude who are scattered across a mountain side.  
And in the middle of His message He addresses the idea of prayer.

Jesus comes along and He reads their mail a little bit and says...  
Don't make a spectacle of prayer.  
Don't use big words that do absolutely no good.  
Go inside. Go talk to me there.

So lets read Matthew 6 starting in verse 9.

*9"This, then, is how you should pray:*

*"Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
10your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
11Give us today our daily bread.  
12Forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.  
13And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from the evil one."*

### **A couple of weeks ago Pastor Mike kicked off our series on the Lord's prayer for today with Our Father in Heaven,**

And so tonight we're going to take a few moments and try to wrap our hearts and our minds around this phrase, Holy is Your Name.

I have to admit that when I first heard that I was speaking on this phrase I thought, "God is Holy, we pray, you guys have a great evening, lets call it a night."  
And then the more I really thought about it, the more I realized that if I were truly honest, there are sometimes I just rush into my prayer or I'm just a little tired from my day.  
And if I'm not careful my words can come out a little like this...

### SHOW MEET THE PARENTS VIDEO.

I often wondered if God would echo those words of Robert DeNiro about some of our prayers...  
"That was interesting too."

So as we get started lets pray that through the help of the scriptures and the HS that we really focus on Him and allow not just our minds, but our hearts to fully capture this idea of Holy is Your Name.

Pray.

### **Names are important to us aren't they?**

And if you don't believe that statement, then you've never had to name your first child.

I know we name our animals,

I know people who have named their cars,

We have names for products and businesses.

We have names for websites.

Which I heard the most expensive domain was sold last year for \$14 million dollars.

### **But naming a child takes it to another level.**

There's excitement in the air. So you get with your spouse and you pull out the name book.

Its all fun and games until someone throws out the first bad name.

We could name him..Mark,

And before I can get it out of my mouth.

No we can't name Him Mark, I dated a Mark in High School. He treated me horrible. He was a jerk.

How dare speak his. Don't ever mention that name in this house again.

Or how about Steve, no, I knew a Steve once, he was just a big bully.

And its not that the name itself is bad, its really all the connotations you or your spouse have associated with that name.

### **Its the same in scripture to. Your name defined you.**

John the Revelator

Although he came later Judas Barabbas would not have wanted to be associated with Judas Iscariot

Simon the Leper

### **Even Jesus faced this when people would say...."Jesus of Nazareth."**

That was such a loaded statement.

Nazareth wasn't a very popular place. No one famous had ever come from Nazareth. It wasn't a place you wanted to be associated with. Nothing good ever came out of Nazareth.

It's like us saying you're from Alabama.

Your name defined you.

### **And Jesus in His example of prayer quickly lets us know how we should think about God**

He immediately directs us to the very thing we are supposed to associate Him with.

Holy is His Name.

And yet with God, its not just about an association.

See with God His Name is His nature!

**God just doesn't possess a certain level of love, He is love.**

He just doesn't wake up one morning and feel like forgiving more today than yesterday, He is forgiveness.

God doesn't aspire to be Holy, God is Holy.

**Moses is called by God to lead the people out of Egypt and Moses ask, who should I say has sent me?**

God's response is, tell them I AM that I AM. The I AM has sent you.

His Name is His nature and

Holy is His Name.

**And Jesus on the mountainside says, guys you've missed it.**

Your focus is a little off.

You've lost your perspective.

Stop focusing so much on yourself and how you pray.

You're so concerned with standing on the street corners for everyone to see you, that you've forgotten who your talking to.

You're more focused on what your going to say and how you're going to say it than you are honoring God.

In the book of Luke we find the story of Jesus visiting the house of two sisters.

In Luke 10:38

*38As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him.*

*39She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.*

*40But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"*

*41"Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things,*

*42but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."*

**So are you Mary or are you Martha?**

If we're not careful our prayer start looking a little like Martha.

We get distracted by all the preparations and we forget there is a Holy God in the room.

We get so concerned about us that we take our focus off of Him.

So how's your perspective? Where's your focus?

What do you spend most of your time doing when you pray?

Is it your agenda or His?

Is it more prayer request or it is more simply praise to Him?

But God, You know that I have all this stuff at work and if you don't do something,

But God, You know the finances are a little short this month,

But God, I've got this important message on Holy is Your Name,

And He sometimes gets lost in our stuff

## Story of David

There is a story in the OT that about King David that's found in 2 Samuel 6.

And in 2 Samuel 6 David is now the King over Israel and he's in the process of bringing the ark of God to Jerusalem.

The ark of God was the ark of the Covenant that God had commanded Moses to build some 400 years earlier.

The ark represented the immediate presence and glory of God...His Holiness.

The ark was built to specific dimensions given by God.

The Levites, or the priest had the responsibility to transport the ark.

No one was allowed to touch it, and just a few verses earlier from where we're at in scripture, a man named Uzzah was struck down by God for touching the ark.

Now, the ark has been sitting in the house of a man named Abinadab for the past 70 years.

And David being the king says lets bring the ark to Jerusalem, our central hub of worship so every one can experience the presence of God.

So they bring the ark from the house of Abinadab and they take it the house of one of the Levites, the priest, named OB 1 Canoby.

NO wrong story, his name was Obed-Edom.

So lets pick up the story in verse 12.

*12 Now King David was told, "The LORD has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God." So David went down and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing.*

*13 When those who were carrying the ark of the LORD had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf.*

*14 David, wearing a linen ephod, danced before the LORD with all his might,*

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*15 while he and the entire house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouts and the sound of trumpets.*

David tells them to go get the ark and bring up to Jerusalem.

And scripture tell us that the entire house of Israel with their instruments.

They were playing and they were shouting.

The priest are there. The king is there.

This is one ginormous procession bringing in the ark.

**And as they bring the ark into the gates of Jerusalem, David get its.**

All of a sudden it hit him. He's captivated by it. He recognizes it.

This is the ark. This is the presence of God.

Yahweh has just stepped into the room.

He's overwhelmed by it and he starts to dance.

King David had perspective.

David understood who He was dealing with.  
David recognized He is a Holy God.  
David understands, ITS NOT ABOUT ME.

David is the king.  
He has protocols to follow.  
There are certain responsibilities that come with being a king.  
You are supposed to act a certain way.  
He has the eyes of the nation upon him,  
What will people think?

But he doesn't care because now it's not about him.  
David the king recognizes the King of Kings in the house and he just has to worship Him so he starts to dance.

David sets down his status.  
David puts down his position.  
David lays down his authority.  
He sets aside his schedule.

David has Perspective  
David has awareness.  
Its an awareness that this Holy God is among us.

For us today...  
    maybe you see the perfect sunset.  
    having a pillow fight with your kids and you laugh til it hurts  
    you're on a date with your wife and you're reminded of why you fell in love  
    waist deep in a trout stream surrounded by nature  
    grocery store and you recognize His provision  
    you've read a scripture a 100 times, but this time it reaches the very core of your soul

What do you do with that?  
David stops and worships Him.  
Do you stop and recognize its Him  
or are you so busy with life, so distracted by all the preparations, so worried about many things,  
that you don't even realize Jesus is in the room?

David shows us the right attitude...  
    it says he danced before the Lord, How?  
    -with all his might.

David gave his best.  
Not the left overs.  
Not half way.  
It was with everything he had.

God here I am.  
My hands, my feet, my mind, my heart, my talents, my time, my energy, my worship,  
It yours.

### **How's your awarness?**

Do you even know He's around.  
Do you stop long even to recognize Him?  
Be still and know that I am God.

### **Does God get your best?**

Does He get your all?  
Is it all of Your might.  
Tonight, did God get your best.  
Today at work did God get your best.  
In your marriage, does God get your best.  
In your worship does God get your best.  
When you talk to him does He get your best.

Or lately maybe your prayers been a little too much about "me?"

### **It's easy to get caught up in me, isn't it?**

We have a lot going on.  
We have a lot of resposnsibilities to take care of.  
They say the average adult will have somewhere between 50-60,000 thoughts per day.  
My kids  
My wife  
My work  
My boss  
My house  
My friends  
My church  
My ministries  
My money  
My 401K  
My email  
My cell phone  
My hobbies  
My health  
My dreams  
My goals  
My stuff

Are we more concerned with us than we are with Him?  
Are we more focused on our needs rather than what He wants?  
Does God get lost in the shadow of our stuff.

### **God want us to bring our request to Him.**

He wants to get involved. He wants us to talk to Him, and talk through things. He wants to be active in our lives.  
But Jesus is trying to teach us that if we will just get our eyes off ourselves, and get our focus on God, he changes how we look at our stuff.

### **Look at the placement of the phrase within the prayer.**

It's at the beginning and not the end.

What I do at the beginning of my prayers greatly effects what happens after that.

My ability to acknowledge Him as Holy at the beginning, will directly impact anything else I have to say to Him.

Scripture puts it another way..."seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and everything else will be taken care of."

How I view Him effects how I view my stuff.

My perspective of Him gives me perspective for life.

He changes how I handle things.

He changes how I respond to things.

We have to stop and pay attention to this Holy God.

### **HAVE KATHERINE COME AND START PLAYING.**

His Name is His Nature

He challenges us to be Holy for I am Holy.

And I mentioned earlier that a domain name was sold last year for \$14 million dollars.

It was SEX.COM

- \* 89% of porn is created in the U.S.

- \* \$2.84 billion in revenue was generated from U.S. porn sites in 2006

- \* \$89/second is spent on porn

- \* 72% of porn viewers are men

- \* 260 new porn sites go online daily

In 2008 Americans watched an average of more than 272 minutes of TV a day - more than four and a half hours.

During prime time hours sex is even more common with nearly 8 in 10 (77%) shows including sexual content, averaging 5.9 sexual scenes per hour.

USA Today published an article last Friday about the Lutheran church.

Leaders of the nation's largest Lutheran church voted Friday to allow sexually active gays and lesbians in committed relationships to serve as clergy.

I looked up the top 10 movies for 2008 according the American Film Institute.

One was Walle, which was G so I threw it out, and two I couldn't information for.

So for these top films in 08 they contained a combine 358 curse words.

Right at 100 of which took the Lords name in vain.

**Scripture says there should not even be a hint of immorality in us.**

We cannot violate the principles of God in order to receive the blessings of God.

**Jesus' teaching on the mountainside addresses our attitude toward prayer.**

He reminds us not to forget who we're talking to.  
and that our focus should be on Him  
His Name is His Nature

He reminds us that its not about the busyness, its not about the stuff, but its simply being with him that matters.

He reminds us Its not about Us.  
Its about worshipping Him with everything we have.  
Giving Him our best.

Its about pursuing holiness.

Isaiah 6:1-3

*1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.*

*2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.*

*3 And they were calling to one another:*

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”*

Our Father who art in heaven, And Holy is His Name.