

The Name

Texts: Numbers 6:22-27 & Revelation 22:1-5

Context: This week in preparation for Easter, we step out of our study of Mark and tum to the text for our Easter services. These two passages have one central theme – the

power of The Name. In the Bible, "name" communicates the character of the person. God's "name" is, in a sense, God Himself. Let's look at what the Name of God and the Name of Jesus teach us in these two passages.

1) What does your name communicate?

What do you like or dislike a bout your name? What have you learned about the meaning of your name? Share some examples of the name of a friend, your spouse, or your children, that fit their personality or character?

2) God's Name and Aaron's Benediction. Read Numbers 6:22-27

Quick Context: It's a priestly blessing given by the priests to the people of Israel. In most English translations, "The LORD" in all caps is a translation of the Name of God "Yahweh" or הוה". Which part of the blessing means the most to you and why? How many times does "The LORD" or *God's Name* appear in the blessing and what is the possible significance? What does it mean to "invoke" (NASB) the Name of God?

3) His Name will be upon them. Read Revelation 22:1-5

Quick Context: This pericope (22:1-5) is a continuation of chapter twenty-one's description of the New Jerus alem. The focus shifts to the perpetual blessings available to those who follow Jesus. Which of the available blessings in the New Jerus alem stand out to you as significant and why? What does it mean to have Jesus' Name written on your forehead? What do you think it will belike to have the presence of God as your source of light?

BIG IDEA: There's only one name that matters - The Name of Jesus.

There is so much power in The Name – Jesus. It is up to us to seek the one Name and not trust any other name than the Name of Jesus.

What names compete with the Name of Jesus in your life?

Whatblessing do you need to know and feel from God's Namethis week? (For God to keep you, shine upon you, begracious to you, give you peace?)

How can we bless each other as a group and invoke the Name of Jesus on one another?

Next Week's Passage: Mark 11:1-11