

use in prayer at different times. Christ, Lord, Master, Son of God, Son of man, Son of David, Lamb of God. In Exodus 3:14 it says, **"I Am who I Am."** This is the response that God used in the Hebrew Bible when Moses asked for his name. So, what's in a name? Isn't that how we identify and place labels on different people? This is what we have done with God and the names we have listed above. It is how we identify the Father and Son and how they exist in our lives. Every day we refer to their different names as we live in His world and love and respect Him. As we pray today, let us use some of the different names of our God, to honor Him! Hallowed be Your name!

### Saturday – I AM (Statements of Jesus)

- I AM the **bread of life.**
- I AM the **light of the world.**
- I AM the **door.**
- I AM the **good shepherd.**
- I AM the **resurrection and the life.**
- I AM the **way, the truth, and the life.**
- I AM the **true vine.**

We are trying to think of things to get you stirred up and to trust God with all of your heart!!! Psalm 9:10 says that people who know God's name will trust him. The name of Yahweh and the name of I AM are built out of the same Hebrew word (hayah). Yahweh seems to be used interchangeably with I AM. Exodus 3:14 says, **"I AM has sent me to you."** Exodus 3:15 says, **"Yahweh...has sent me to you...this is my name forever."** We think it would be safe to say that God's purpose in this meeting with Moses is to reveal, as he never had before the meaning of his personal name, Yahweh. The key is in the phrase, I AM, and especially in the phrase, I AM who I AM! Jesus used the phrase "I AM" in seven declarations about himself. In all seven, he combines I AM with tremendous metaphors, which express his saving relationship toward the world. If you have the ability to view this song on YouTube, it is worth your time to listen to this powerful message by Eddie James titled "I AM". <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AXiZqbikkj8>

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### What Now?

1. Throughout this week, if you don't already, strive to be in prayer every day. I also encourage you to focus each day on one or two of Jesus' "I Am" sayings as you pray, letting those images shape your prayer time. (The Bread of Life; The Light of the World; I AM; The Gate for the Sheep; The Good Shepherd; The Resurrection and the Life; The Way, the Truth, and the Life; The Vine)
2. Consider memorizing (or re-memorizing) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment and Luther's explanation: "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks."

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## Monday — Hallowed be Your Name

Matthew 6:9 says, ***“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your name.’*** As stated in Luther’s Small Catechism: “God’s name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.” A prayer in the Bible commonly known as the Lord’s Prayer contains the phrase, “Hallowed be Your name,” but what does *Hallowed* mean? The dictionary defines *Hallowed* as sanctified; consecrated; highly venerated; to Hallow, “to make or set apart as holy; to respect or honor greatly; revere.” In the same way we use Hallowed to refer to God, whom we should treat with awe and respect because He demands it! In our daily lives we need to let God’s light shine through us so that people know that we love and respect, honor and cherish His Hallowed name. In the Lord’s Prayer, the phrase, “Hallowed be Your name,” is appropriate because not only is God holy, but His name is holy, too. We should never treat God’s name with disrespect as some do when they curse and use God’s name in vain. We should give the same respect and honor to God’s name that we give to God because He and His name are one in the same. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior, declaring, “Jesus is Lord,” you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven.

## Tuesday — Second Commandment

Is there a connection between the 1st petition and the Second Commandment? Both speak about the name of God. “In this petition we pray for exactly the same thing that God demands in the Second Commandment: ***that His name should not be taken in vain...but used rightly to the praise and glory of God.***” You can find this in Luther’s Small Catechism and it would be a good phrase to memorize. In Exodus 20:7 it says ***“You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name.”*** So, if we use His name in vain, how can we keep His name holy? As part of our everyday living, we need to continually emphasize the need to keep His name holy. The name of the Lord is holy, as He is holy. The name of the Lord is a representation of His glory, His majesty and His supreme deity. We are to esteem and honor His name as we revere and glorify God Himself. To do any less is to take His name in vain. A question to think about today is, if you hear someone using God’s name wrongly, should we speak up and ask them not to use our God’s name that way? We should be saying, “Hallowed be Your name.”

## Wednesday — I Recognize That God is Greater Than...

***“His Name is greater than all others...”*** Psalm 148:13. ***“Who but our God***

***is a solid rock?”*** Psalm 18:31. ***“You are my rock and my fortress. For the honor of Your name, lead me out of this peril.”*** Psalm 31:3. How do these verses speak to the realization that God is greater than...? Because we believe God is the Creator of the universe, then certainly we know that He is far greater, far bigger than any situation that we could face. Having said that, our imagination can only wonder how great God really is. He is everywhere, doing everything and is there for us whenever we need Him – all you need to do is ask! That is why the power of prayer, particularly the Lord’s Prayer and “Hallowed Be Thy Name” is so important. We are to keep His name holy in all that we do, whether it is at work, at home, at church, or just living our daily lives. God’s purpose is greater than...our problems and pain. God has a plan. You need to look past the temporary pain and look instead at the long-term benefit in your life. Keeping His name holy is what God demands of us and invites us to live by because He knows the difference it can make in our daily lives and the eternal importance of it!

## Thursday — How Do We Keep God’s Name Holy?

Do you keep God’s name holy by honoring Him throughout the day? What would it mean for us to keep God’s name holy at work, in our relationship with colleagues, friends and family? If we are to keep God’s name holy in every moment of our lives, what difference might this make in our daily life? In teaching us to pray, Jesus draws upon the language of Leviticus 19:2 where it says ***“You must be holy because I, the LORD, your GOD, am holy.”*** So keeping God’s name holy involves our whole life as we serve, guide and all we do. We should give God a special place in our life, the highest place as our Lord. We would like to end today’s devotion with a prayer: Father, may your name be kept holy. May we answer your holiness by being holy in every aspect of our lives. Help us to say ‘no’ to the vile things going on around us and ‘yes’ to you! Heavenly Father, when we think of you, speak about you, and when we act in your name, be with us, guiding us, inspiring us and teaching us. Help us, by your grace, to keep your name holy in every aspect of our lives. Amen

## Friday — What’s In a Name?

In the Old Testament God’s “name” stands for His person and is honored by His people. His name is often described as holy. Psalm 30:4 – ***“Sing to the Lord, you saints of his; praise his holy name.”*** We want to start out with names used for God. Eloah: Mighty, strong, prominent. Yahweh: Lord. El-Olam: Everlasting God. Can you think of other names God is called by, that we refer to our God? We use these names to describe, to honor, to pray to, to recognize as part of our daily living. Jesus also has many names that we call Him. Here are names that we