

Study Guide

Hallowed be Your Name

SESSION GOALS

The point of every session is a main idea with the goal of what we want to walk away from the discussion with —knowing, feeling and doing.

MAIN IDEA: When we truly begin to accept and live like God is our Father, worshipping Him becomes a natural and spontaneous response.

Head Change: To understand that while God’s love for us as a father allows us to be intimate with Him, He is also sacred and holy, and therefore deserving of our reverence.

Heart Change: To be so transformed by God’s ‘Fatherhood’ that praise becomes our natural response.

Life Change: To incorporate praise as a regular part of our spiritual lives.

OPEN

Think back to a time when you were overwhelmed or awestruck by the beauty and splendor of something—either man made or natural. Why do you still remember it? What about the moment left a lasting impression upon you?

When confronted by something outside of us that is far more magnificent than our imaginations had painted, we respond with awe. In these ‘awestruck’ moments, as we are lifted up and out of ourselves, we catch a sudden glimpse of something that is far superior to our expectations. Hovering at the edges of the magnificent, we are stirred by a strong sense of other worldliness.

In this session, Ranjit David explains that God Himself is hallowed, awe-inducing in His holiness and majesty. As we enjoy His intense Father love, may we never lose our sense of awe for Him.

As you watch, write down how Ranjit David answers these questions.

What is the meaning of the word ‘hallowed’ and in what context do we generally use it?

What are three practical ways in which we can hallow God?

How does beholding lead to treasuring God?

Why does God want us to praise Him?

WATCH

SESSION 2: Hallowed Be Your Name (11 minutes)

Horizontal lines for writing answers to the questions.

REVIEW

Why is it significant that the phrase ‘hallowed’ be Your name comes after the phrase ‘our Father in heaven’? What are some contemporary words that are equivalent to ‘hallow’? How does hallowing God at the very beginning impact the rest of the Lord’s prayer?

Ranjit says that to hallow God is to behold God. What does the world behold mean? In what practical ways can you practice beholding God? What life changes do you need to make in order to behold Him?

What would be some of the external manifestations of the act of treasuring? How can this apply to how you treasure God?

Ranjit says that the reason our hearts are not filled with joy perhaps has to do with what we behold and treasure. How do you think beholding and treasuring God can lead to joy?

Ranjit uses a word for God that we generally do not associate with Him. He says that God should not be ‘useful’ to us but beautiful. In what ways are we guilty of making God ‘useful’?

When do you praise someone? Why do you think the Bible encourages us to praise God? In the light of Jesus’ caution against repetitive prayer, how do you think you can praise God meaningfully?

Ranjit says that hallowing God completes our joy. In what way has this been true in your life? Could you share about a time when your joy overflowed in spontaneous praise?

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Read Psalm 111:9, Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 5:12. All through the Bible, we find that God’s holiness induces a sense of glory and majesty. What stands out to you in these verses? What is the response of the writers to God’s holiness?

From these verses, would other words would you associate with ‘hallow’?

Read Exodus 3: 5, Exodus 26:31-35. In Exodus, God urges Moses to take off his sandals before approaching Him. Why does God give Moses this command?

The veil in the tabernacle symbolized our separation from a holy God. God’s holiness is a recurring theme in the Old Testament and would have been well-known to the Jewish audience of Jesus’ day. Why do you think Jesus chooses to focus on God’s holiness at this point of the prayer? How does it link the phrases that precede and immediately succeed it?

Read Psalm 63. As we just heard in this session, the psalm extols us to behold God, treasure Him and rejoice in Him.

What is the attitude with which the psalmist approaches God as he seeks to hallow Him?

List down some of the ‘doing words’ in this psalm. Using the psalm as a reference, think of ways in which you can make hallowing God a part of your daily life.

LAST WORD

God's name is hallowed. It was so hallowed that Jews did not dare to address God by His name. Only the high priest could pronounce it in the holy of holies in the prescribed format. By focusing on the hallowed-ness of God, Jesus encourages us to remove the focus from ourselves and turn it to God, so as to recognize Him in His holiness. While He is holy—a word that symbolized separation to the Jews—he is also our Father, inviting us into an intimacy. In just two phrases, Jesus establishes the miracle of the Christian faith—that we can call a holy God our Father.

LIVE IT OUT

Select at least one activity below to complete before watching the next session.

Worship: Listen to the song *What a Beautiful Name* by Hillsong Worship or another song that speaks of the names of God.

Read: Skim through the book of Leviticus. How many times do you encounter the word holy?

Memorize: Read **1 Peter 2:9** and commit it to memory.