



**Life Group Questions**  
midlandevangelicalfreechurch  
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Date: April 25, 2021

Scripture: John 17: 3 and 17

## **Vision**

- We aspire to be a Gospel-centered family where everyone we encounter moves closer to Jesus every day.

## **Mission**

- We enjoy and glorify God, **Embrace His Word**, and engage the world. Led by the Spirit, everyone welcomes, plugs in, and reaches out.

## **Review:**

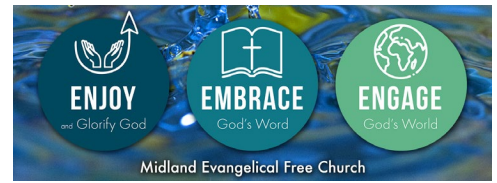
What were the three main sections of this week's sermon?

What was your main takeaway?

Did you gain any new insights? If so, please share.



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For meditation, prayer, and discussion:

Please read and reflect on the following verses.

- What do they teach us about God?
- What do they teach us about ourselves?
- What do they teach us about the Bible?
- How do they show us the way?
- What stands out to you? Why?
- What changes do you need to make?
- What is one small step you can take this week?
- Please pray in accordance with God's word, thanking Him for His word, and praying His word back to Him.



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## **John 17:3 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> And **this is eternal life (=)** that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

## **John 8:31–32 (ESV)**

<sup>31</sup> So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

## **2 Timothy 4:3–4 (ESV)**

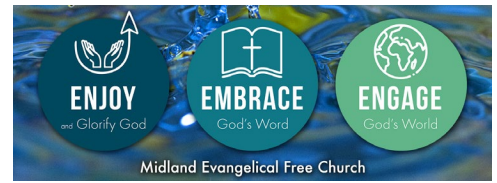
<sup>3</sup> For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, <sup>4</sup> and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

## **Hebrews 4:11–13 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. <sup>12</sup> For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. <sup>13</sup> And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.



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## **Matthew 24:35 (ESV)**

<sup>35</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

## **Psalm 1:1–6 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

<sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

<sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

<sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

<sup>6</sup> for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.



## God's Character

"your name"

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### ESV

- [Jn 12:28](#)     Father, glorify [your name](#)." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."
- [Jn 17:6](#)     "I have manifested [your name](#) to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
- [Jn 17:11](#)     And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in [your name](#), which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.
- [Jn 17:12](#)     While I was with them, I kept them in [your name](#), which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.
- [Jn 17:26](#)     I made known to them [your name](#), and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."



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## John 14:13–14 <sup>(ESV)</sup>

**13** Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

To ask in Jesus' "name" does not mean to tack such an expression on the end of a prayer as a mere formula.

*MacArthur, J. J. (1997, c1997). The MacArthur Study Bible (electronic ed.) (Jn 14:13). Nashville: Word Pub.*

Jesus lived in the will of the Father, and the Christian is duty bound to live in the will of Jesus. Appropriate praying/asking here, therefore, must follow the same model Jesus exemplified. Mere reciting of the name of Jesus must not be understood as a mantra of magical power that provides the petitioner with his heart's desire. A "name" in the Semitic context carries a special sense of **the nature** of the name bearer.

*Borchert, G. L. (2002). Vol. 25B: John 12-21. The New American Commentary, New International Version (119). Nashville: Broadman & Holman.*

**"Name" =**

To "praise" or "bless" the name of Yahweh means more than to verbally pronounce blessing or praise. There is a real sense in which for Israel to live in ways that are **consistent with the character of Yahweh** is to live up to his name and thus to bless and praise it.

*Gerald H. Wilson, Psalms, vol. 1, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002), 894.*

To "put" Yahweh's name on Israel is to claim them as his special possession under his sovereign authority and care, and it **defines** their **character** henceforth in relation to him alone.

*Gerald H. Wilson, Psalms, vol. 1, The NIV Application Commentary (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002), 894.*



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To "pray in Jesus' name" means:

"(1) **to identify the content** and motivations of prayers **with all that Jesus is** and

(2) to pray with full confidence in Him as He has revealed Himself." This is because a "name" in the biblical world represented the **character** and quality of the person or thing named.

*Richards, L. O. (1991; Published in electronic form by Logos Research Systems, 1996). The Bible readers companion (electronic ed.) (691). Wheaton: Victor Books.*