

# NAMES OF GOD

HOW BOSTING IN GODS NAME TRANSFORMS YOUR SOUL

## Week 5: October 4-10

10min Welcome / Introduce Guests / Share Life  
Recall the Guidelines / Open in Prayer

2min **Share the Vision: 400 was a great success! If you went, what was one thing you took away from our time together?**

5min **Hook Question:** When was a time you were honored to be chosen to do something?

**Ask someone from your team to read or tell the following background for the story:**

2min King Uzziah was the 10<sup>th</sup> king of Judah. He reigned for 52 years and was considered a good king. However, at the end of his reign, Uzziah decided to burn incense on the altar of incense. This act was only for Levitical priests who were set apart by God to offer sacrifices and offerings. Uzziah's pride led him to make this offering. Because of Uzziah's unfaithfulness to God, he became a leper and died.

Uzziah's illness was tragic for his kingdom. When he died, the leadership of Judah crumbled. As a result, the kingdom of Judah entered a state of rebellion towards God and was considered godless. But God had a plan to restore the people to Himself. In the same year that Uzziah died, God would reveal Himself as holy (which means set apart) to a prophet named Isaiah.

There's one more observation we need to know. In the story, an angel takes a hot coal and touches the lips of Isaiah with it. What is that about? It is called symbolism. In touching the lips of the prophet with the coal, God was saying that he was setting Isaiah apart, making him holy, to speak His word to the people who had turned godless after the death of King Uzziah. With that in mind, this is where our story begins . . .

12min **Tell the story from Isaiah 6:** *Remember to change up the storyteller often.*  
**Rebuild the story:** *Group members retell the story based on what they remember.*  
**Read the story from Isaiah 6:** *Ask the group to read these verses.*

**Discussion Questions: learn to talk about God's Word with others...**

Head  
Questions:  
Quicker  
tempo.

- What do you like or dislike about this story?
- What does this story teach us about ourselves?
- What does this story teach us about God?

Heart & Hand  
Questions:  
Slow down &  
wait!

- How has God set you apart for a specific task or role?
- What is the Holy Spirit speaking to you to act on as result of this story?
- Who could retell the story for us? **CHALLENGE:** Tell the story to someone this week!
  - *Ask for a volunteer storyteller for next week. Close in prayer.*

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### Week 5: Names of God

One of the hardest parts of the disciple making culture is fighting for relationships, also known as conflict resolution. Did you know that in many churches, conflict resolution is taboo? This makes sense though because most people would rather sweep a conflict under the rug than work out the conflict. Conflict is hard. It is very personal and humbling to confront someone you have conflict with, which is part of the reason we need to fight hard to work conflict out.

At Western Hills, we have committed to work conflict out biblically. Not only is this important to us. It is important to Jesus as well. Jesus prayed for unity among believers in John 17. He also said that we will be known by our love for one another in John 13. If we are to be known by our love for one another, we must be unified. As Pastor Jerry preached recently, we are unified by the Holy Spirit who lives in each of us! But what do we do when a fellow brother or sister has offended another? Jesus shows us what to do in Matthew 18: 15-17.

1. Go privately and point out the offense – this keeps confidentiality and trust among the two believers. It also allows you to win your brother back if they admit their wrong and repent of it.
2. Go with two or more witnesses when necessary – If your brother or sister is unrepentant, bringing others who have witnessed the same sin in their life may help them see their sin more clearly. It also keeps confidentiality and trust because you are limiting the amount of people who know about this issue.
3. Go to the church – If they continue to not repent, then go public by letting the church know about the offense.
4. Treat them as a pagan – This is the last resort. But if they continue to dwell in sin without repentance, they must be cast out for the sake of maintaining unity in the body of Christ.

Most of the time, conflict can be resolved in the first step given to us by Jesus. There are times when additional steps are needed and it is in each of these steps that we fight to maintain relationship with those who claim Christ. If a brother or sister is repentant, relationships are strengthened. When we truly love people well, they are humbled and know that they can trust those who are willing to work through conflict with them.