

SERMON NOTES - In His Name - Family

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

Using these notes and this message

There are 3 ways to watch or listen to this message, and various ways to use it:

Access to the Message	Using the Message
The full video message (around 26 minutes) can be watched on our website .	Play the Video OR Preach it Yourself → Small Group Discussion In larger settings. See guidance notes below .
A shorter version (7-11 minutes) with small group discussion questions can also be found on our website.	In small groups. See Notes below .
An audio podcast - on our app , soundcloud , or itunes	Personal listening

Below you will find the following notes ...

[1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes](#)

[2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon](#)

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1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes

Due to the nature of the video messages, a sermon preached on video/TV generally contains much more information than should be presented when preaching “live”.

Video messages also don't include as many personal stories and anecdotes as would be shared in a personal sermon.

For this reason, when preaching this message “live”, it is advisable for you to pick one or two of the main themes, ideas, or points below, and focus on them, adding your own stories and experiences, and your own personality.

THE BIG IDEA

The idea of acting, praying and being “In Jesus’ Name” is very important to understand, and it starts with being “in His Family”.

THE MAIN THEMES & SUB IDEAS EACH OF WHICH COULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A SERMON ON ITS OWN

You could use one or more of the following themes and ideas and craft a whole sermon out of any of these:

1. The importance of doing things "in Jesus' name"
- This phrase is used often but we may have lost the meaning of it

- It's important to understand what it really means - Jesus (Saviour), and Christ (Messiah / King)

2. Understanding Jesus' "I Am" statements

- In the OT, God said "I Am" to Moses (Exodus 3:14)
- Jesus uniquely used "I Am" statements to refer to himself (John 8:58)
- Jesus' "I Am" statements give us a description of who he is (John 6:35, John 10:7, John 10:11 etc.)

3. Becoming a child of God

- To be in Jesus' family, we must become his child by believing in his name (John 1:12)
- His name means he is the Savior and Messiah who rescues us from sin (Matthew 1:21, John 20:31)

4. Being part of Jesus' sheepfold

- Jesus is the door and the shepherd (John 10:7, John 10:11)
- We enter through Jesus and follow him as our shepherd (John 10:9)
- We are called to be with other Christians, despite imperfections (1 John 5:1)

5. Gathering in Jesus' name

- Jesus promises to be present when we gather in his name (Matthew 18:20)
- This means submitting to his lordship and seeking unity (Matthew 16:18-19)
- It's built on the revelation of Jesus and guided by gifted people (Ephesians 4:11-13)

6. The power and authority in Jesus' name

- Miracles, healing, binding evil happen in Jesus' name (John 14:13-14)
- This comes from being in relationship with Jesus (John 15:5, 16)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BASED ON THIS TALK

1. Why do you think we can often overlook the meaning of doing things "in Jesus' name" even though we say it frequently?

2. How can Jesus' "I Am" statements help you understand his identity and purpose more fully? Which one stands out to you the most? Shepherd, Bread of Life, Resurrection and Life, Light of the World, Door, True Vine, The Way, Truth and Life

3. Have you taken the step to become a child of God by believing in Jesus' name? What holds people back from making this decision?

4. In what ways is Jesus your "good shepherd" who leads, provides for, and protects you? How are you learning to recognize his voice?

5. What are some practical ways your church or small group can seek greater unity and keep Jesus at the centre when you gather in his name?

2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon

The SUNDAY sermon is normally not an in depth teaching time (this is usually done in other times and settings). Usually the Sunday Sermon achieves 3 main goals:

- It attracts non believers,
- It inspires believers and
- It educates everyone.

A sermon should not be too long (30 minutes is a good maximum time).

The mood and tone is important as people will often remember a FEELING more than information. People must sense and feel the love, joy and excitement of Jesus and the Christian life along with being motivated by GRACE, rather than legalism, guilt or religion.

A 4-Point Checklist for Sermon Preparation ...

- 1) You** must be able to articulate in your own mind what the talk's one big message is. You should be able to state this in one sentence before you give your talk, and this would also work well as the introductory sentence of your talk..

**1 BIG
IDEA**

It should be a compelling and motivating idea that is captivating and important, and it must have HELPED YOU in your life. If it is real for you, it will be real to those who hear you. As a general guideline, this idea should inspire people to faith, hope and action, and it is based on joy rather than on legalism or duty.

- 2) To** back up and support your big idea, you should have around 3 main points which are helpful and along the same theme. People should be able to follow your logical progression and see how the three points back up the main idea. You can have more than three points if you are making the same point from several different angles OR if you are using several different Bible verses to support the same idea.

3
—
SUPPORTING
Points

- 3) For** each point you make, you should try to have one **story** or a **personal example** that illustrates what you are saying. They give a window to your sermon, allowing light to shine in, and bringing your points to life. Without illustrations, your sermon could feel like it's all "facts". Illustrations and stories engage people's imagination and emotions, and can show how the truths you are speaking of have impacted and affected you in a personal way.

**ILLUSTRATIONS
&
STORIES**

- 4) There** should be a practical way that people can apply what you have said – it should change people's lives, and you should conclude with this application. There is a **general** life application – "how will I live differently going forward?" – and there is also an **immediate** application – "what is God saying to me right NOW?" Encourage people to "do business with God" right then and there and to make decisions or commitments if necessary. This "life application" can be a good conclusion to your talk, OR the main idea that you started with can also be helpful as a concluding summary.

**PRACTICAL
APPLICATION
AND SUMMARY**

3 - How to lead a Small Group

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

1 - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like those below, or use an “app” like <https://letsplunge.yesheis.com/> :

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

2 - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

3 - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do PRACTICALLY in response to this teaching?

4 - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, “how can we pray for you / each other now?”
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person’s need

The blessing and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.

4 - Small Group Bible Study Questions and Guidelines for this message

OUTLINE OF THE SHORT VIDEO MESSAGE

1: Being in Jesus' Name Means Being in His Family

- a: To be in his family, we must receive him and believe in his name (John 1:12)
- b: His name "Jesus Christ" means he is the Savior and Messiah (Acts 4:12)

2: Being in His Family Means Being Part of His Sheepfold

- a: Jesus is the shepherd and the door to the sheepfold (John 10)
- b: We must hear his voice, follow him, and trust him as our shepherd
- c: We must be joined to other Christians, despite their imperfections

3: Gathering in His Name Means Gathering as His Family

- a: We must gather together with other Christians (Matthew 18:20)
- b: We must gather upon his authority, word, and for his glory
- c: We must seek unity with one another

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THIS SHORT VIDEO

1. Are you in His family? Discuss how you came to be part of Jesus' family.
2. What does it look like to be led by Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in your daily life?
3. How much do you think our Church "Gathers in His Name"? What could / should we do more or less of?
4. Spend some time thanking God and praying specifically for each person's needs.

5 - Expanded Notes of the full Sermon

In His Name - Family

What does it mean to pray or to do something in Jesus name?

There are some amazing statements about being “in His name”:

- **WHATEVER WE DO** - Col. 3:17 “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
- **AUTHORITY FOR MINISTRY & MIRACLES** - Acts 3:6, Acts 4:18, Acts 4:30, Acts 16:18, 2Th 3:6, Phl 2:10, Mar 16:17, Luk 10:17-19
Mar 16:17-18 NKJV - "17 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 "they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.""
- **GIVING THANKS & PRAYING** - Eph. 5:20, Ac 8:16, Jhn 15:16, Jhn 16:23-24
Jhn 14:14 NKJV — “If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

Also, Jesus used a very strange way of saying “I am”. He used 2 Greek words together - “*ego eimi*”

DA CARSON says - “Jesus’ use of “I am” (Greek, *ego eimi*) was also tantamount to saying “I am God,” for he was applying to himself “one of the most sacred of divine expressions” from the Old Testament.” (D.A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991), 358*)

R.C. SPROUL says - R.C. Sproul reminds us that the Greek words that are rendered “I AM” in our English translation here are “*ego eimi*” which means, “**I am, I am**”. These words bring to mind the sacred name reserved for God the Father in the Old Testament, a name sometimes referred to as the “ineffable” name of God, YHWH.

Exo 3:13-15 NKJV - "13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." ["*HYH, HYH*"] And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM ["*HYH*"] has sent me to you.' " 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD ["*YAHWEH*" "*YHWH*"] God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'"

Jhn 8:58 NKJV - "58 Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.""

Jhn 18:6 NKJV - "6 Now when He said to them, "I am (*He*)," they drew back and fell to the ground."

There are 7 “I am” statements of Jesus where He describes Himself, and we will also look at these in this series. Today we will look at 2 - “I am the **door**” and “I am the **Good Shepherd**”

IN HIS NAME = IN HIS FAMILY

Eph 3:14-15 - “For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole **family** in heaven and earth is named,”

How do we do this?

1. BECOMING HIS CHILD -

Jhn 1:12 NKJV - "12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:"

Act 4:12 NKJV - "12 "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is **no other name** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.""

Jhn 20:31 NKJV — "31 but these are written that you may **believe that Jesus is the Christ**, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name."

"Jesus" "Jeshua" = "God saves" Mat 1:21 - "*JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.*"

"Christ" = Messiah = God's saviour king - Isa 53:4-6 - "4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

Act 10:43 NKJV — "43 "To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.""

Jhn 3:18 NKJV — "18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

2. HAVING JESUS AS YOUR SHEPHERD AND DOOR

Jhn 10:1-5, 7-16, 27-29 NKJV - "1 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 "Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ... 7 Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 "All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 12 "But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. 13 "The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. 14 "I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. 15 "As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 "And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd. 27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 "And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand.""

1. He is the DOOR and the SHEPHERD
2. There are other (under) shepherds
3. We must enter through Him, know and follow Him, and emulate Him

3. GATHERING / ASSEMBLING TOGETHER - Matt 18:20 - "For where two or three are gathered together **in My name**, I am there in the midst of them."

Mat 18:15-20 NKJV - "15 "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. 16 "But if he will not

hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' 17 "And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector. 18 "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. 20 "For **where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.**"

Mat 16:15-20 NKJV - "15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17 Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18 "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My **church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ."

Gathered "in His name" therefore means gathered...

1. For Him
2. On the rock of His word, and the revelation of who He is and what He has done for us
3. 2 or 3 of us
4. Worshipping Him
5. Guided by apostles and prophets
6. Doing His mission and will with His authority
7. Prioritising unity

Conclusion:

Being "IN HIS NAME" means being "IN HIS FAMILY" and this is done by:

- becoming His child,
- being in His sheepfold, and
- gathering in His name.

Other Verses Used:

Jhn 6:44 NKJV - "44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."

Rev 3:20 NKJV - "20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."

Jhn 12:31 NKJV - "31 "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."

Act 19:13-16 NKJV - "13 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "We exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches." 14 Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?" 16 Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, overpowered them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded."

1Jo 5:1 NIV - "1 Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well."

1Sa 4:21 NKJV - "21 Then she named the child Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband."

Rev 2:5 NKJV - "5 "Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place--unless you repent."