

Discussion Questions November 12, 2017

Pergamum & Your Name Revelation 2:12-17

(Do you like your name? If you could change it, what would you change it to?)

In Revelation 2:17 Jesus says, “To the one who is victorious, ... I will give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.” This world and the principalities and powers of it will have all sorts of names to call us, but it is only God who can tell us what our name ultimately is.

- Can you remember a time when someone “named” you in a negative way? Share about it and explain how it impacted you.
- Can you remember a time when someone “named” you in a positive way? Share about it and explain how it impacted you.
- Try to write a list of both the good and bad names that you have been given throughout your life.

Ephesians 3:14 says, “*Every family in heaven and on earth derives its name from the Father.*”

- Which of the names on your list fit the character of God and to which names do you need to say, “That’s not my name?”

The bad names you’ve been given are lies from the enemy.

- What names or truths (aspects of His own character) might God like to replace those lies with?

“The name Jesus means *Yahweh* is Salvation. So, if *Yahweh* is Salvation, it means that we are *not* salvation. It means that Caesar and all our current leaders are not salvation. It means that insurance companies, a safe car, and a vacation in Mexico are not salvation. Even the Church is not salvation.”—Peter Hiett

- If you think of the name Jesus as a sir name that you take on & Jesus means God is salvation and you are not, in what ways have you possibly tried to name yourself salvation or allowed something else to be your salvation?
- Would anything in the way you live your life change if you fully and only depended on God for your salvation in all circumstances?

Imagine what it will be like to receive a stone from Jesus and read your name on it (a name that only you and Jesus know). Wouldn’t you feel at home—not trying to be somebody but just being . . . *fully* who you are?

- When do you feel most at home? Is there a time, a place, a person, an activity in which you feel most fully who you are and at rest? What is it about that place that most soothes your soul?
- Take a moment to thank God that He is the one who ultimately names you and thank Him that He frees you from all names that are not truly yours.

**These questions were created by Kimberly Weynen.*