Interactive Workbook

The Power of Jesus’ Names

Tony Evans

Harvest House Publishers
Eugene, Oregon
Contents

Making the Most of This Interactive Workbook ........... 5

Session 1: Immanuel ........................................ 7

Session 2: Alpha and Omega ............................ 17

Session 3: Lord and King. ................................. 29

Session 4: Priest and Lamb .............................. 39

Session 5: I Am and the Word ........................... 51

Session 6: Messiah and Savior ......................... 61

Appendix: Dr. Tony Evans and The Urban Alternative ..... 71
Making the Most of This Interactive Workbook

This interactive workbook is a tool to help your group combine the video and Bible study into a dynamic growth experience. If you are the leader or facilitator of your group, take some time in advance to consider the questions in the Video Group Discussion and Group Bible Exploration portions of this guide and prepare your own personal examples to encourage discussion. To get the most out of this study, each group member should have their own copy of this workbook. This will allow them to take notes during the group time and to dig deeper on their own throughout the week.

Every group session includes a video portion, so consider the logistics in advance. Will everyone be able to see the screen clearly? Make sure to set the audio at a comfortable level before the session. You don't want your group to miss anything.

With that in mind, let's preview the guide. Each lesson has six sections:

**Video Teaching Notes**

Several key points and quotes from the video are provided in this section, but there's also room to write your own notes.

**Video Group Discussion**

People in your group are likely to forget the content unless they review it right away. Many of the discussion questions have to do with remembering what they just viewed. But other questions
try to connect the video to their emotions or experience. *How did you feel when he said that? Is that true in your life? Do you have the same issue?*

**Group Bible Exploration**

This is a Bible study, so each session is grounded in Scripture. Your group members may have different levels of faith. This is a time to open up the Bible and grow as a group or help others find their faith.

**In Closing**

The goal for every Bible study is to apply what you’ve learned. This section will highlight the main point of the lesson and challenge your group to spend some time diving deeper into the week’s theme.

**On Your Own Between Sessions**

This section includes additional study individuals can do to keep the content they just learned fresh in their minds throughout the week and to put it into practice.

**Recommended Reading**

Your group time in this video Bible study will be enhanced if everyone takes the time to read the recommended chapters in *The Power of Jesus’ Names* by Tony Evans. Dr. Evans’ video teaching follows the book, but the book includes considerably more information and illustrations. If you are the leader, encourage your group to prepare ahead.
The name Immanuel originated within a context of pain, despair, loss, doubt, fear, and chaos. Immanuel came to a world in crisis. It is not merely a name to remember during Christmas as we sing carols and drink hot chocolate. No, Immanuel is a name of comfort when times are at their worst.

One of the first things you need to understand about Jesus is that no matter what you have gone through or are currently going through, He is with you. No matter how difficult the challenges you face, God is with you. No matter how many enemies attack you—whether internally or externally—God is with you. Whatever you are facing, struggling with, enduring, or exhausted from, God is with you. The birth of Jesus Christ is not only the introduction of our Savior into this world; it is also the introduction of God’s promise of victory and His presence in the midst of a painful reality we all know far too well.

Friend, God is with you. Jesus came that we may know God more fully and experience His power more completely as He deals with our sins and our circumstances.

This is one of the primary things I want you to understand as we begin our look at Jesus’ names. No matter what you have gone through, you are not alone. No matter what difficulties have threatened to drown you, you can overcome. No matter what challenges you are facing—however big or small—God’s victory is in your grasp because God’s presence is with you. You are not facing anything on your own.

When Matthew introduced the name Immanuel by referring back to Isaiah, he reminded his readers, who were suffering under Roman oppression, of the prophecy’s context. He ensured them of the presence of God in a decaying and
challenging season. He emphasized that this entry of Immanuel into our world was a reminder that God is with each of us—even, and especially, when things are not in our favor. Jesus gives us God in the flesh. Colossians 1:15 puts it this way: “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.” He is “the exact representation” of God (Hebrews 1:3).

When we talk about Jesus—Immanuel—we are talking about God Himself. We are not just talking about a man who lived and died on earth. This is God in the flesh.

*The Power of Jesus’ Names*, pages 20-22

**Video Teaching Notes**

As you watch the video, use the spaces below to take notes. Some key points and quotes are provided here as reminders.

*Teaching: Immanuel*

Jesus is the exact representation of God. In Him, all the fullness of deity dwells (Colossians 2:9). If you want to see or experience God, just look to Jesus.

Isaiah points out some very practical effects of having Jesus with us in the form of Immanuel. He calls Him the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, and the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). Take a moment to describe briefly each of these attributes of Immanuel.

The power and purpose of the incarnation is that God becomes experientially real to you through the person of Jesus—Immanuel.

This video segment was filmed at the location in Bethlehem where it is believed Jesus was born. As you can see in the video, the area is now built up with churches and elaborate decorations. Contrast the present state of this location with how things were when Jesus was born. Why do you think God would have Immanuel (“God with us”) be born in an obscure location lacking comfort and notoriety?
Quotables

- Jesus is the eternal emulsifier. He is fully God. He is fully man. And by faith in Him, God and man are brought together.
- If you belong to Jesus Christ, you’re walking around with God in the midst of your life.
- We call this the incarnation: God becoming a man, deity being poured into humanity. The theological term for this is the hypostatic union, where there are two natures in one person, unmixed forever.

Video Group Discussion

1. In the video, Dr. Evans teaches on the scriptural truth that Jesus is fully God and fully man. Describe the effects of combining these two natures. How does it impact Jesus’ relationship with you on a daily basis?

2. The teaching on Immanuel was filmed in Bethlehem. Visitors come from all around the world and wait in line for hours in order to enter the area where it is believed that Jesus was born. Once they enter, they are given less than a minute to see it and then move on to make room for more people. In some ways, this is symbolic of the wise men traveling far at great personal cost to worship the young King. Why is it important to worship Jesus?

   a. Romans 12:1 says, “I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.” How is this another way of worshiping Jesus?

   b. What are some specific things you can do to apply the worship described in Romans 12:1 to your everyday life?
c. Standing in line for hours, awaiting the opportunity to pass by a monument symbolizing where the birth of Jesus occurred, takes great commitment and discipline. In what ways can you apply greater commitment and personal discipline to how you worship Jesus in your daily life?

3. Dr. Evans uses the example of mayonnaise to illustrate how Jesus joins God and humanity. What keeps God and humanity separate to begin with?

   a. How does the joining of God and humanity through Jesus give you greater access to spiritual power?

   b. Can you come up with another illustration to demonstrate how Immanuel joins God and humanity? Get creative. You might want to work on this together as a group.

4. Dr. Evans says that Jesus is God’s selfie. With that picture in mind, read each of the following passages and write them in your own words. Then take some time to share how each verse applies to your life.

   a. “Those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren” (Romans 8:29).

   b. “Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1).
c. “A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40).

5. Jesus is God’s selfie, and in a way, we are called to be Jesus’ selfie—to reflect His character, will, and attributes in our daily lives. Share a specific way you can do that this week.

Group Bible Exploration

1. Read the following shaded verses together. Describe the similarities between the name of God listed before each verse and what the passage says about Jesus.

   a. Elohim (Creator)

   By Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him (Colossians 1:16).

   b. Jehovah (I Am)

   Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am” (John 8:58).
c. Jehovah Nissi (Banner of Victory)

These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world (John 16:33).

d. Jehovah Rohi (Shepherd)

I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep (John 10:11).

e. El Elyon (High and Mighty)

Far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come (Ephesians 1:21).
2. Read the following passage together and then describe the difference between the first order and the second order. Why was it necessary that God become a sinless man in order to satisfy the demands of the first order?

When He comes into the world, He says, “Sacrifice and offering You have not desired, but a body You have prepared for Me; in whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have taken no pleasure. Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come (in the scroll of the book it is written of Me) to do Your will, O God.’ ” After saying above, “Sacrifices and offerings and whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have not desired, nor have You taken pleasure in them” (which are offered according to the Law), then He said, “Behold, I have come to do Your will.” He takes away the first in order to establish the second (Hebrews 10:5-9).

3. Read the following verses together. What is the difference between being “given” and being “sent”? Why do you think this distinction is made?

A child will be born to us, a son will be given to us (Isaiah 9:6).

When the time came to completion, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law (Galatians 4:4 HCSB).

Notice that one word: given. The Son was given by God. As the Son of God, Jesus already existed, but He came to earth through human birth. That’s why it could be said of Him that He created the universe. Too many people want to keep Jesus in the manger because they don’t want to deal with His deity. As long as they can
keep Him asleep in the stable, they don’t have to reckon with the reality that He’s God on a throne. But He was already God. Thus, the Son had to be “given.”

_The Power of Jesus’ Names_, pages 16-17

4. How does understanding that Jesus is both a man who had to be born but also God who was sent from heaven affect your view of Christmas?

**In Closing**

As you end the group study today, spend some time sharing prayer requests related to your relationship with Jesus and your understanding of His names. Be specific when addressing the areas you feel you need to grow in the most. Ask Jesus to open your hearts throughout this study in order that each of you may come to Him like never before. Also ask that He will guard and protect your priorities and time in order to enable each of you to finish this study in its entirety.

Before moving on to session 2, complete the On Your Own Between Sessions section below.

**On Your Own Between Sessions**

1. In the book _The Power of Jesus’ Names_, Dr. Evans recounts the story of a wealthy man who chose to give his entire inheritance to whoever bid on the picture of his only son at his estate auction after his death. The person who valued the son enough to purchase the picture gained everything. In what ways do you devalue Jesus, God’s Son, through your choices, purchases, or words?

   In what ways can you value Jesus more? List something specific you can do this week.

2. Read John 1:18.

   a. In what ways has Jesus “explained” God?
b. List seven attributes of Jesus that give a reflection of God the Father we would not have known apart from Jesus revealing Him to us.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 

Jesus took everything there was to know about God and put it on a shelf we could reach. Jesus is the complete revelation of God. That’s why you can’t bypass Jesus and get to God. You can’t skip Jesus and have God. You can’t deny Jesus and know God. Jesus is the only begotten Son—the only one. Jesus is God with us. He is Immanuel.

_The Power of Jesus’ Names_, page 19

3. How do people seek to “skip Jesus” in our culture today?

Pray and ask God to give you wisdom and insight into any areas of your life where you are not openly forthright about Jesus. Then ask Him to provide you with the boldness you need to proclaim Jesus in and through all you do.

**Life Exercise: Getting Intimate with Jesus**

1. **Identify** a time when you can focus on Jesus each day. In the book of John, this is called “abiding.”

2. **Consider** several ways to nurture your relationship with Jesus during this time. For example, you could write in a journal any thoughts you have toward Him or thank Him for any of His attributes. Or you could look up Scripture about Jesus and meditate on it for a few minutes.
3. *Evaluate* how your relationship deepens as you spend consistent time with Immanuel throughout the week. Also evaluate whether or not it becomes easier to proclaim Jesus through your words and actions the more you abide in Him.

4. *Repeat*. After you’ve put this practice into play this week, seek to repeat it in the weeks to come. You can incorporate the various aspects of Jesus we’ll be studying into your daily intimate time with Him.

**Recommended Reading**

In preparation for session 2, you may want to read chapter 2 of *The Power of Jesus’ Names*. To review the material from session 1, read chapter 1.