



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Knowing the great names of God	SPEAKER	Pastor Daniel Foo
THEME	Building the right culture	DATE	5 October 2024

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In this week's sermon, Pastor Daniel gave us a glimpse into the names of God, El-Elyon and El-Shaddai, why it is important to acknowledge God's name and how should we respond to them in a way that is honouring and pleasing to God.

The names of God reflect His attributes, character, nature, and roles. While God is infinite, our understanding is limited, so He reveals Himself through various names to help us know Him better. In the Old Testament, God's name was placed in the temple (2 Chronicles 7:15-16), where the people worshipped. In the New Testament, we can worship anywhere, as we are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19). We seek God's help in various situations—when we sin, face attacks from the enemy, experience despair, encounter tragedies, or for those seeking Him (2 Chronicles 6-7). In these moments, we ask for His forgiveness, restoration, and intervention.

We acknowledge God's name for protection (Psalm 91:14b), such as the hedge of thorns mentioned in Hosea 2 and seen in the story of the wayward child in Luke 15. We also recognize His name for blessings (Numbers 6:24-27) in our physical, mental, emotional, relational, and spiritual well-being. There are two names of God, El-Elyon and El-Shaddai that are the main names of God and there are seven ways we can respond to the names (four for El-Elyon and three for El-Shaddai).

1) El-Elyon (God Most High)

- **Through giving thanks and praising God** (Psalm 92:1, Psalm 50:14, Psalm 97:9, Psalm 7:17). This is our altar of worship. However, there may be times when we are dry, when we have no inspiration and do not feel like it. In these moments, we should walk by faith and not by sight. We continue to worship God for who He is. We connect and re-connect with God constantly and consistently.

- **Honouring God through our worship** (Genesis 14:18-20, Deut 16:16b, Hebrews 7:1-2) We give unto God through His grace as the Holy Spirit convicts and guide us. We should do it intentionally and deliberately as an act of worship towards God.

- **Walking humbly before God** (James 4:6, Micah 6:8, Eph 4:1-2)

God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble. We should avoid the pride of Lucifer, who sought to be like God without knowing his place. Understanding our position relative to others is crucial and often reflects our heart issues—where we derive our self-esteem: from God or other sources? Nebuchadnezzar is another example (Daniel 4:17, 4:25), as he sought glory for himself. When we are proud and fail to honor God, justice and judgment will follow.

We are called to walk humbly before God, who dwells in eternity. He desires to revive the spirit of the humble and contrite, and we must approach Him with that heart posture.

- **Dwelling and abiding with the Most High God** (Psalm 91:1)

We should keep relating to God, maintaining a close and personal relationship with Him through consistently spending time with God through prayer, worship, and studying His Word.

2) El Shaddai (God the Almighty)

- **Being blameless** (Genesis 17:1)

In the Old Testament, Job, Noah and Abraham were considered blameless because they focused on God, depended on Him and had a right standing with God. None of them were perfect but they were considered blameless in the eyes of God based on Deut 6:25. In the New Testament, Christ is the perfect righteousness and in Philippians 3:9, we all have the righteousness of God when we have Jesus as our Lord and Saviour and when we are cleansed by the blood of the lamb

- **Receiving God's grace by faith**

God is the all sufficient one. We can come boldly and confidently to the throne of grace for every need in our life. Some examples of the grace of God are peace, wisdom, healing, provision, divine intervention etc. God grace flows to us through His promises and not through His commands. We find grace through His promises when we receive it by faith (Hebrews 11:6). Then the specific grace is realized in and through us so we should keep believing God and continue experiencing God coming through for us (2 Peter 1:2-4)

- **Circumcising our hearts** (Genesis 17:10-11, Romans 2:28-29)

Circumcision of our hearts involves being sensitive and walking by the spirit of God. We have uncircumcised hearts when we grieve the Holy Spirit through our sins, when we are skeptical, cynical, or casting doubts. God desires a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart.

CONCLUSION

When we see the Lord Jesus, we recognize El-Elyon (the Most High) and El-Shaddai (the All-Sufficient One) as revealed in John 14:7,9. Jesus embodies the fullness of God (Colossians 1:19) and fulfills all of God's promises—"yes" and "Amen" (2 Corinthians 1:20). In times of trouble, the enemy's lies may shake our faith, but those who nurture a relationship with God will find true rest. To fully experience Him, we must know Him personally. By walking with Jesus, rooted in His Word and guided by the Holy Spirit, we will discover profound peace and unwavering trust in His promises.

QUESTIONS

**1. How have you experienced God as El Shaddai and/or El Elyon in your life?
Share with one another.**

2. What are some ways we may have personally quenched the Spirit? How can we be more sensitive to the Holy Spirit and ensure our hearts are “circumcised” in our walk with God?

3. What are some practical ways we can worship God, especially during dry seasons when we don't feel inspired? What can we start doing today?