

JANUARY 1, 2023
HOLY NAME OF
JESUS



There is power and blessing in the name Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 2:15-21	Shepherds visit Jesus
Monday	Numbers 6:22-27	Blessing for the people
Tuesday	Galatians 4:4-7	Children of God
Wednesday	Psalms 138	Thanksgiving and praise
Thursday	Leviticus 12:2-8	After a woman gives birth
Friday	Acts 5:27-32	Apostles obey God
Saturday	Psalms 8	The wonderful name of the Lord
Sunday	Matthew 3:13-17	The baptism of Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
Psalms 8:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, you have given us the name of Jesus to empower our lives; we give you thanks for the name of Jesus that is majestic in all the earth. Amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

God of power and might, we thank you for giving us the name Jesus to bless our lives, just as you give us this food to strengthen our daily lives. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the name of our Lord Jesus bless you and keep you and give you peace.



© 2022 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.

JANUARY 1, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesus, Name Above
All Names*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Have you ever had a nickname? If so, what is the story behind your nickname?
- What does your name mean? How does your name influence who you are?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 2:15-21.

This reading tells of a very Jewish foundation for the identity of this baby born in Bethlehem. On the eighth day, according to Leviticus 12:2-8, a male baby shall be circumcised. Mary and Joseph obey the will of God as it was announced by the angel and as it is required in Leviticus. They circumcise the baby and name him Jesus. Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name, Joshua, meaning "the Lord saves." Biblically, a name is more than a label. It has the power to shape and transform. Numbers 6:22-27 is called the Aaronic Benediction. It ends by noting that the name of the Lord will bless the people. The name Jesus also blesses. There is power in the name of Jesus. It is the power of the presence of God in our midst to save.

Discuss: As the New Year begins, how does knowing the name of Jesus and his power to bring salvation to you and to all people make a difference in your life?

Pray: **Almighty and merciful Lord, we thank you for the name of Jesus that blesses us and all the world with the hope of salvation and the power to live in peace through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you bless others to know the name of Jesus, our Savior?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The Holy Name of Jesus, a special day on the church calendar, is celebrated eight days after Christmas. Jesus officially received his name on the eighth day after his birth. This was not a name given to him by his parents. The name, Jesus, meaning "the Lord saves", came from God. Write the name Jesus on a sticky note and place it where you will see it every day as a reminder to pray in the name of Jesus.

Pray: **Dear Lord, during this year, may we be reminded of your blessings in the holy name of Jesus, Amen.**



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org