

Jehovah Mekaddishkem

LORD
Who Sanctifies

DAY ONE

- The name Jehovah is used some 6,800 times in the Bible. Anytime you see the word LORD in all capital letters it is the translation of the name Jehovah or YHWH. Jehovah is the personal covenant name used by the Israelites when talking about God. It means the Self-Existent One; He has always been and always will be. He is the eternal "I AM." He will never change. He cannot change. He is the covenant keeping God. Doesn't this give you great comfort no matter what you are going through?

This week we will study the name Jehovah-Mekaddishkem and learn the meaning behind this compound name. The name Mekaddishkem is the English transliteration for the Hebrew word "qadash" meaning to set apart as sacred, consecrate, dedicate; to sanctify or to make holy.

Sanctification is the separation of an object or person to the dedication of the Holy One. When the two words are combined into Jehovah-Mekaddishkem, it is translated as "The Lord who sets you apart."

The first time we see the word qadash in the Bible is in Genesis 2:1-3, "Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. 2 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so, on the seventh day he rested from all his work. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done."

- What do you believe it means that God blessed the seventh day and made it holy?
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The children of Israel were introduced to Jehovah-Mekaddishkem in Exodus 31:12-13. The chapters Exodus 19-40 are the story of Israel while camped at the foot of Mt. Sinai. God gave Moses the law and the instructions for building the Tabernacle. Moses in turn shared all this with the Israelites.

Exodus 31:12-13 says, "Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Say to the Israelites, 'You must observe my Sabbaths. This will be a sign between me and you for the generations to come, so you may know that I am the LORD, who makes you holy.''"

- What did God tell the Israelites to do? _____
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Why were they to do this? _____

What do you believe God wanted them to do on this day? _____

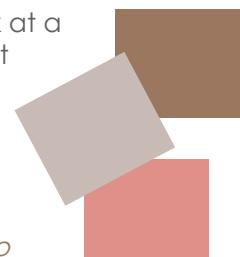
By doing this what do you believe they would naturally recall? _____

The Life Application Bible says, "The overwhelming message of Leviticus is the holiness of God. "Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy." (Lev. 19:2)

But how can unholy people approach a holy God? The answer-first sin must be dealt with. The opening chapters of Leviticus give detailed instructions for offering sacrifices. The final emphasis is the celebration and remembrance of the goodness of God." Sanctification of the Sabbath was God's idea, and it is done by His divine power. Once again, we find this word qadash, this time it is in Leviticus 20:8 saying, "Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the LORD, who makes you holy." If the Sabbath was sanctified (made holy, set apart for God's purposes) by God's divine will, what do you suppose it means when the Scripture says, I am the LORD, who makes you holy? _____

The New Testament word translated "sanctify" is the Greek word hagiazo. Let's look at a few New Testament verses that speak to someone or something being sanctified, set apart for God. After each verse briefly state what you learn about being set apart for God.

In John 17:17-19 Jesus speaks to the Father on behalf of his followers when he says, *"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified."*



The apostle Paul says goodbye to the Ephesian elders in Acts 20:32 saying, *"Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified."*

Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, *"Now, may the God of peace and harmony set you apart, making you completely holy. And may your entire being—spirit, soul, and body—be kept completely flawless in the appearing of our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One. 24 The one who calls you by name is trustworthy and will thoroughly complete his work in you."* (TPT)

Hebrews 2:11 says, *"Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters."* (NIV)

DAY TWO

Friends, we are NO LONGER bound to sin. It has NO authority over us, UNLESS we give it authority. This would be like bumping into an old boss you have not seen in years and following his orders. This old boss has no authority over you. Therefore, it is your choice to obey or deny his requests.

If you are a child of God

- Satan no longer has authority
- You have been freed from bondage to this enemy
- John 10:10 tells us Satan's plans and purpose is to steal, kill and destroy us. Jesus gives us life and not merely life, he gives abundant life

According to John 8:32, how can we keep from falling prey to the enemy's wiles?

After having considered both Old Testament and New Testament verses, what have you discovered about Jehovah-Mekaddishkem?

Look up the verses below, and write why you believe God is so interested in our holiness.

Psalm 5:4 _____

Psalm 101:7 _____

Psalm 140:13 _____

God desires to have a relationship with us long before we are holy. Hebrews 12:14 says, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord." In your own words, describe what hinders our relationship with him?

How important is personal holiness?

DAY THREE

Read Psalm 66:18 and Isaiah 59:12. Why is personal holiness so important for anyone who desires to follow Christ?

Psalm 66:18 *If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;*

Isaiah 59:12 *For our offenses are many in your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities:*

- The second half of James 5:16 is very clear concerning prayer, "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." What is the key to a powerful and effective prayer life?
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- A right relationship with God leads to a right relationship with others. Hebrews 12:14 explains it like this, "Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord." What is the cost to those who are unwilling to live a life of personal holiness?
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- The Apostle Peter in 1 Peter 1:15-16 says, "But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am Holy.'" Personal holiness is not an optional activity for those who choose to follow Jesus. Why are we to choose holiness?

Read Romans 12:1-2, which describes our daily sacrifices as acts of worship.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

- What is required to live this type of transformed life?
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DAY FOUR

- The pretense of a holy life is an offense to God. Using Romans 12:9-18, make a list of the true holiness God desires in his children.

Romans 12:9-18

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. 10 Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. 11 Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. 12 Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. 13 Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.



Looking back over the list you just completed, what are two or three of the things that you could do today or this week to express your desire to live a life of personal holiness? If you are comfortable, share with your group what you did to express love this week.

Another area of personal holiness involves forgiveness. I do not believe people hang on to unforgiveness by desire. They honestly do not know what to do with it. Unforgiveness most often brings the greatest pain to the bearer. Quite often the other person has moved on and is not really thinking of the offense. They may be totally unaware that we were offended. Read Hebrews 12:14-15 TPT.

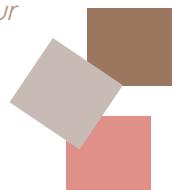
Hebrews 12:14-15 *In every relationship be swift to choose peace over competition,[a] and run swiftly toward holiness, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord.[b] 15 Watch over each other to make sure that no one misses the revelation of God's grace. And make sure no one lives with a root of bitterness[c] sprouting within them which will only cause trouble and poison the hearts of many.*

What have we missed when we continue bearing the burden of unforgiveness? What has slipped passed us, unnoticed, when we harbor unforgiveness?

The Apostle Paul addressed this issue of forgiveness in Romans 12:17-21. What are we instructed to do with any offenses that cannot be reconciled between us?

Romans 12:17-21

Never hold a grudge or try to get even, but plan your life around the noblest way to benefit others. 18 Do your best to live as everybody's friend. 19 Beloved, don't be obsessed with taking revenge, but leave that to God's righteous justice. For the Scriptures say: "If you don't take justice in your own hands, I will release justice for you," says the Lord. 20 And: If your enemy is hungry, buy him lunch! Win him over with kindness. For your surprising generosity will awaken his conscience, and God will reward you with favor. 21 Never let evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good



If something came to mind as you have been reading and contemplating these last few questions, why not stop for a few minutes and talk to God about it? Ask Him to help you lay this burden down. If personal holiness is our utmost desire, then we must lay down all unforgiveness and allow God to heal our heart. Remember, our forgiveness does not erase the offense, it simply removes us from the equation and brings us into obedience to our Heavenly Father. God is the rightful and holy judge. He does not need our reminder or our input on how to handle this or any situation.

DAY FIVE

Sin caused a great gap between God and us. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death. But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus." In order to get the full picture, define the word "gift."

gift -



- What are your thoughts about this gift? _____

 - What are your thoughts about the giver? _____

 - After studying the name Jehovah-Mekaddishkem, do you believe God loves you and desires to have a relationship with you? _____
 - What did you learn about your own relationship to Jehovah-Mekaddishkem through the study this week? _____

 - Why is it important to know this name? _____

- Try to find someone to share what you have learned this week. If you do, please share the experience in your small group discussion.