



# 19 Minutes with Luther

## The First Petition

- The Knowledge of God
- Law and Gospel
- Introduction to the Law
- 1st Commandment
- 2nd Commandment
- 3rd Commandment
- 4th Commandment
- 5th Commandment
- 6th Commandment
- 7th Commandment
- 8th Commandment
- 9th & 10th Commandments
- The Conclusion
- The Gospel & the Nature of God
- The Apostles' Creed (Faith)
- 1st Article (Creation)
- 1st Article (Preservation)
- 1st Article (Protection)
- 1st Article (The Fall into Sin)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Person)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Office)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Work)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Humiliation)
- 2nd Article (Christ's Exaltation)
- 2nd Article (Christian Life)
- 2nd Article (Saved by Faith)
- 3rd Article (The Holy Spirit)
- 3rd Article (Calls)
- 3rd Article (Enlightens)
- 3rd Article (Sanctifies)
- 3rd Article (Keeps in Faith)
- 3rd Article (Invisible Church)
- 3rd Article (Visible Church)
- 3rd Article (Forgiveness)
- 3rd Article (Eternal Life)
- Baptism (Part 1)
- Baptism (Part 2)
- Holy Communion (Part 1)
- Holy Communion (Part 2)
- Keys & Confession (Part 1)
- Keys & Confession (Part 2)
- Keys & Confession (Part 3)
- Introduction to the Lord's Prayer
- The Address
- **1st Petition**
- 2nd Petition
- 3rd Petition
- 4th Petition
- 5th Petition
- 6th Petition
- 7th Petition
- The Doxology

Hallowed be your name.

*What does this mean?*

God's name is certainly holy by itself, but we pray in this petition that we too may keep it holy.

*How is God's name kept holy?*

God's name is kept holy when his Word is taught in its truth and purity and we as children of God lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But whoever teaches and lives contrary to God's Word dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, dear Father in heaven!

1. With the First Petition, Jesus teaches us to pray that we might keep God's name holy. God's name is his titles. List eight different titles that God uses for himself in the Bible. Share the significance or meaning of each of these titles.

2. God's name is also his reputation—everything that he has revealed to us about himself on the pages of Scripture. What does the following passage tell us about God?

*"The LORD . . . proclaimed his name, . . . 'The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation'" (Exodus 34:5-7).*

3. Martin Luther reminds us that God's name is kept holy when we teach God's Word in its truth and purity and when we live our lives according to that Word. Explain how these two things will serve to honor God and keep his name holy.

4. Martin Luther also reminds us that God's name is dishonored when anyone *teaches* and *lives* contrary to his Word. Explain how teaching and living contrary to God's Word serve to dishonor God and his name. Give examples.

5. How did King David's sins of adultery and murder serve to dishonor God's name?
  
6. Agree or disagree: If a church teaches that Jesus Christ is the Savior, we should not be overly concerned if that church also harbors false doctrine.
  
7. React: One of the most often-stated reasons unchurched people give for staying away from the church is because they see all the hypocrites in the church.
  
8. What is the relationship between the First Petition and the Second Commandment? between the First Petition and the Third Commandment?

**Luther said:**

"It brings shame and disgrace on an earthly father to have a child go bad and be antagonistic to him in speech and conduct, so that because of the child he must suffer contempt and ridicule. Just so also God is dishonored if we who bear the heavenly Father's name and have received all manner of blessing from him teach, speak, or live otherwise than as his godly children, with the result that he must hear people speak of us not as children of God but as children of the devil." (Tappert, pp. 425,426.)

**Closing Prayer**

Lord, we're ashamed of the dishonor we've brought on you and your name by the way we've lived our lives. Forgive us for Jesus' sake. Empower us daily to fight the good fight, to let our light shine before others, to share the message of your Word in its truth and purity, and thus to glorify your name. Amen.

**At home**

Memorize the First Petition and its parts.

**Helps**

(1) God uses dozens of names for himself on the pages of the Bible: for example, Jesus (meaning Savior), Immanuel (meaning "God with us"), and Shepherd (emphasizing his love and protection). (2) God reveals himself as a just and holy God who demands perfection and promises to punish all sins. He is also a gracious and merciful God who, in love, exacted the payment for sin from his Son, Jesus, so that all people might be saved. (3) God is honored and glorified when we "live a life worthy of the calling [we] have received" (Ephesians 4:1). Furthermore, Jesus said that when people "see [our] good deeds," they, too, may be led to "praise [our] Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). When we teach God's Word in its truth and purity, we are protecting God's reputation and revelation of himself. This results in the salvation of souls to the glory of God. (4) When Christians live contrary to God's Word, they bring disgrace, not only upon themselves but also upon the church and their God. Likewise, when anyone teaches anything contrary to God's Word, God's reputation is dishonored. Examples abound and will vary. (5) David's sins gave public offense and were used by the enemies of God as an occasion for ridicule. (6) Any false doctrine is serious. It dishonors God since it is a denial of his Word of Truth. (7) Since this is true, Christians should recommit themselves to living for the glory of God. It should also be remembered that Christians are sinners who need the forgiveness of God as much as anyone else. (8) In the Second Commandment, God protects the use of his name—his titles and his reputation. In the Third Commandment, God protects his Word and demands that we regard it as holy and true and that we teach and share it in its truth and purity.