

Jesus in you, the hope of Glory;

Your name

Glorifying His name

HELLO

MY NAME IS

*The Name
Thing*

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I dedicate this book to the Holy Spirit who taught me my name means Truth and not to believe the lies. And, to Jesus, The Truth, teaching me the way of Truth, showing others how to walk in The Truth. Jesus ~ the hope of glory, using my name to glorify His name.

I want to thank my parents, Gary and Kathie Williams, who raised me in the way a child should go ~ you didn't preach your faith you LIVED IT!. To my brother, Kirk Williams, who spent endless patient hours with me on my website. To my husband, Kelly Ashmore, who allowed me to practice my faith with him ~ you have the patience of Job. And, to my best twin-friend, Jamee Schorno, who taught me people can be safe and for always believing in me. You all encouraged me to "keep on keepin' on."

I also want to thank my spiritual mentors who do not know my name, but who have poured heavily into my spirit, Rita Springer, Joyce Meyers, Beth Moore, Graham Cooke, and Bill Johnson. I am eternally grateful for you and look forward to long conversations with you in heaven.

With joy unspeakable and inexpressible gratitude, thank you to all the Aglow women ~ who know me and those who know my name because my mom called and asked you to pray ~ the prayers of the righteous have availed much and set me on fire!

I pray the blessings and favor of our Lord would overwhelm your spirit, flood your heart, and blow your mind.

Alycia

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What has the world called you?

One dreary, fall morning, during my Thursday morning bible study group, Beth Moore asked, “What has the world called you?”

I pondered that question for a week. The world had called me a lot of things. One thing that sticks out is “ice princess.” I worked in a family business, which I took seriously, probably too seriously. I was the only daughter, of my father, who owned the company. I wanted to do my job well, and I did it with perfection. This led me to be cold hearted and icy. I was cut off from my heart. There were too many bad things I had done in my past and I was hiding from them. I refused to look at the truth in my heart. It was too painful.

So, I chose perfectionism and performance as a way to counteract how bad I felt about myself. I lived justifying and rationalizing my ways as good, and ultimately deceived myself into believing perfection trumped mercy and grace.

I expected our employees to perform to my standards. When they fell short, I was curt, angry, and showed it with a disapproving attitude. I rejected looking at the deceitfulness in my heart. I believed the lie which justified my actions, the anger at myself and others. I was angry for having fallen short of *my* expectations and standards. (Expectation...ugh! that’s just a whole other topic!)

I have come a long way from that name description of my life. It took several years, but I came to a point where I allowed the Lord to come into every room of my heart and clean the messes I made of myself, and my relationships.

What does God call you?

I was leading a home bible study and as I pondered Beth's question, a new question arose in my spirit, "I wonder what God calls me?"

My daughter's name is Kathleen and I wanted to keep it long, no shortening it; no Kathy, Kate, Katie etc. As I met people with the name Kathleen, I would ask them how they kept it long. One night I was at the drug store picking up pictures talking to a Kathleen about her name. As I walked away, I thought how pure and innocent she seemed. She just gave off that impression after only speaking with her a few moments. I knew her name meant purity.

I pondered Kathleen's namesake, my mom, my mother-in-law, Kathryn, and other Kathy's I had met in my life... Yes, they seemed to give off that impression as well. Huh? The scripture, "calling things that are not as though they are..." kept running through my mind. Each time I called Kathleen I was saying, "Purity, purity, purity." All daylong I was literally speaking purity in and over her.

Hmmm... I wondered what did the names of the women in my bible study mean? The next day I couldn't wait to find out. The next week we talked about what the world had called us and what we called ourselves. Then I told them what their names meant...

From that fall morning to our last meeting before Christmas break the "Name Thing" was relentless ~ the Lord would not let it go. I pondered and studied; contemplated and wondered; reflected and meditated on what the Lord was telling me about names...

Names of God

The Lord our God is the ONE True God with many names. We don't have to figure out which god to call on for help because *whatever you need He is...*

Prince of Peace. Provider. Comforter. Light. Healer. Righteousness. Refuge. Shelter. High and lifted up. Name above all names. Beautiful Savior. Wonderful Counselor. Wisdom. The Way, the Truth and the Life. The Alpha and Omega. The Beginning and the End. Bright Morning Star. Victor. Savior. Immanuel, God is with us. The High Priest who understands. Whatever you need He is....

The Word of God Names Us:

Isaiah 43:7: Everyone who is called by *my* name

Isaiah 43:1: Fear not for I have *called you by name* you are mine

Jeremiah 15:16: When your words came to me, I devoured them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, *for I bear your name.*

Proverbs 10:7: The memory of the righteous will be a blessing

Ps 139: ...he formed us and knew us before the world began...



Naming our Twins

After four miscarriages, my husband and I went to the doctor for an ultrasound on our fifth pregnancy. We were looking for a heartbeat and the health of the pregnancy. After several minutes of looking at fuzzy black and white images my doctor said, "There's one heartbeat. And, here's baby B's heart beat." WHAT!?!??? We were having TWINS! My heart was stricken with shock and awe and wonder...God had reached back into the recesses of my mind and brought to the forefront an unspoken desire laid dormant for nearly 20 years. I had twin great uncles and I had always wanted twins... Now, I was not only pregnant with one heartbeat but two.

I named my girls in the womb. They didn't move much. Kathleen was baby A on my lower right and Victoria was baby B on my upper left. I named them after my mother and grandmother, Kathleen Rose, respectively. And Victoria Linn because I liked the name and what victory to have two babies. Linn is short for Linnea, my godmother.

No kidding, when they came out Kathleen had dark curly hair like Kathleen & Rose. Victoria came out blue eyed and blonde like my godmother. Astounding! I named them in the womb.

You cannot convince me the Lord did not name my children. I named them sight unseen. God knew their names and gave them the personalities to match.

Naming our Twins

Years later, Victoria was feeling left out because she was not named after a grandmother like her sister. I looked up the meaning for Linnea. No joking, I can't make this stuff up! It is a flower in Sweden called TWIN FLOWER! Below is a picture of the flower:



Victoria was elated when she found out her name meant twin flower, not only because she was a twin, but now she felt a sense of belonging when she realized the Lord blessed her with a flower name like, her sister, Kathleen Rose. Unbelievable! Come on, that's good stuff the Lord has done!



My Name Glorifying His Name

God and His many names is the person we exalt when we allow Him to work His names/character into our lives. God has named you. I would like to submit to, that *Jesus in you* is the hope of glory - our name glorifying His name. Perhaps the meaning of your name is your life story and is how God wants to shine through you to a lost and dying world (Phil 2:15).

My name, Alycia, means truth. So maybe, just maybe, one of my jobs, purposes, and paths in life is for the character trait of God's Truth to shine through me. Jesus in me, *truth*. My name of truth speaking truth into other people's lives - Jesus in me the truth teller. Jesus graciously showed me the truth of my life and opened the iron gates of my heart to the captivating ways of His presence.

I also believe whatever your name means can come against you. We have an enemy who comes to kill, steal and destroy our life. He knows the meaning of your name and whatever God means for good Satan will use for evil.

I can say in the past I definitely liked to speak truthfully to shock people or bowl them over to get attention. And, many times I spoke the truth but NOT in love. The Lord and I have diligently worked on that one. The word of God is the Truth. It is called the Sword of the Spirit, which divides the soul, and spirit, joint (function) and marrow (life), the thoughts and intents of the heart (Heb 4:12).

My Name Glorifying His Name

Yet, I used truth about a situation to wield it like a weapon to get my way, prove my point, and state my case to be right. Which, is good if you are a lawyer or an investigative social worker like I was. However, I also used it against my husband. Yes, I was telling the truth; yes, maybe I was right, but who cares! I was losing my relationship with the one person I had vowed to love and to cherish.

Recently, I looked up my middle name Rose. I knew one meaning was beautiful. Beautiful Truth – I really liked that. I found out my middle name also means grace. The Lord is teaching me to speak the truth in love. He also showed me how hard I have been on myself and others. God intends for me to be gracious towards others (which does include boundaries for us people pleasers) in my speech and especially towards myself in my thought life.

I am very hard on myself. Sometimes I get off balance when I am trying to “do” the Christian life instead of allowing the Holy Spirit to guide me into life and peace, and LIVE as a Christ follower. NOW, I want my name to glorify His name. I don’t need my name in lights to be significant. The I AM lives in me and He calls me Gracious Beautiful Truth.

My expressed desire, is to be a lamp of Truth, transparent to all. To be an example of how exposing my heart to The Truth, He gave me grace in the muck and mire of my deepest sin, and SET ME FREE!!!



Jesus in YOU the hope of glory

It was the week before Christmas, our bible study group of three years was meeting. It was a cold, foggy Thursday morning in a friend's house on the San Francisco Bay waterway. The candles were glowing, the water was swaying, and the sweetness of the Lords presence was there inhabiting our worship and praise. Jesus and I had made a gift for each lady. I wanted them to know how special each and every one of them was to our God.

Jesus and I looked up all of their names and He showed me who He was to them and through them. I prepared a card for each one of them. I, went around the room, read each card which bore the meaning of their name, and the Lord spoke truth into their lives.... Here's what He said:

Joanne your name means Grace. God has been gracious to you. Jesus in you showing other people grace.

Kris your name means Christ Follower. Jesus has called you and you are his. Jesus in you showing others how to follow Christ.

Marty your name means pearl. You are so valuable to the Lord. Jesus in you showing others their value.

Lori your name means laurel leaf, which was a sign of victory. Jesus is victorious in your life. Jesus in you showing others victory.

Lisa your name means consecrated to God. The Lord has kept you for Himself. Jesus in you showing others God's light shining through you.



Jesus in YOU the hope of glory

Lori your name means laurel leaf, which was a sign of victory. Jesus is victorious in your life. Jesus in you showing others victory.

Lisa your name means consecrated to God. The Lord has kept you for Himself. Jesus in you showing others God's light shining through you.

Alexandra your name means defender of mankind. The Lord will defend and fight for you. Jesus in you defending the weak and the poor.

Kelli your name means warrior. The Lord is your warrior and fights for you. Jesus in you giving justice to others.

Jen your name means fair and yielding, white spirit. Jesus is your redeemer making you white as snow. Jesus in you showing others humility and redemption.

There was a hush and awe in the room. The Lord was there, speaking truth, and bearing witness to each person's name. There were tears of confirmation; better understanding of the path they looked back on; clarification of the road they were traveling; freedom of knowing Jesus was doing the work, as we yielded our hearts and ways to his.

He is THE ONE TRUE GOD, whatever you need He is...

Who will you be?

Biography

Alycia Ashmore lives in Northern California with her husband and twin girls. She is active in her local church and works as a foster care and adoption social worker.



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