

Happy 2019!

Welcome back to Connection Group. I hope we all had a wonderful festive season and managed to spend quality time with family and friends. Hope you were also looking forward to being with your Connection Group family again and sharing special moments together. Let us not forget why we meet as small groups in our comfortable homes: To *promote* spiritual growth through the study of God's word, *encourage* one another by sharing our life experiences and *share* the love of God through meaningful Christian relationships. **(Romans 8:29 and Hebrews 10:24-25).**

Our first Connection Group meeting of the year could not have started with a better sermon than this: Hello, My Name is God – The Name of LORD. This is part one of an eight-part series on who God is. I would encourage you not to miss a single part of the series as this topic will help us relate to God in a better way. Pastor Walker highlighted how God describes Himself in language, showing us God's business card. Sit back, relax and enjoy the ride as we get to know God at a deeper and more personal level!

In 2019, we want to focus on growing ourselves in the Lord. School for Life courses have been engineered to carry us through various growth stages of our Christian walk. If you want to know your **Unique Design** and discover how you can share your unique gifts with others, sign up for the Unique Design course which will take place on Saturdays 9 and 12 January from 09:00 hours to 12:00 hours in Classroom 2 at the School for Life table in the Foyer after the service.

For more information call the Church office on 260 211 840746 or email:
connect@mlfc.org

God bless you!

Pastor Kondwani

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO PRAY OVER THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS

Pray for yourself regarding your building campaign pledge:

- That you would fully commit to pursue God and His will for your finances:
Matthew 6:10 and Mark
- That you would put God's Word first and live in obedience.
Proverbs 4:20-22, Matthew 4:4 and Romans 15:4
- The successful launch of the current building campaign.
Proverbs 3:9-10

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: HELLO, MY NAME IS GOD: THE NAME OF THE LORD

A Getting to Know Each Other

What was the highlight of your Christmas Holiday?

B Digging Deeper and Application

Key Texts (NKJV): Exodus 34:5-9, Exodus 24:3-8, Exodus 20:1-6 and Numbers 14:15-23

1. In **Exodus 34:5-7 NIV** God takes time to describe Himself to Moses. Why is it important to God that you know who He is?
2. Apart from the gracious gift of salvation, share with the group a personal experience of one of God's character described in **Exodus 34: 5-7** that stands out in your life.
3. As soon as Moses grasped the nature and character of God, he asked Him to do something consistent with His self-described nature: "pardon our iniquity and sin". **Read Exodus 34:8-9.** Share with the group one item you are believing God to do for you and which of God's promises or character traits you are basing this request on.
4. How does knowing God's Character help your prayer life?
5. Many times we distort God's true character by making our own versions of Him like the Israelites did in Exodus 32 with the golden calf. How can you avoid taking your human characteristics and placing them on God?
6. God is full of mercy but still punishes the guilty. Explain how God balances these two attributes.

C Take Home

Let us embark on a God-knowing mission this year by meditating on His attributes. Take time to understand what God truly means in His self-description.