

I give you my praise

Leader's guide

Osei Stewart and Donald Montgomery have given us a lively song expressing many of the characteristics of God.

Bible verse

'Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.'

Philippians 2:9-11

Name above all names

Warm-up

Strong consonants will really help listeners understand the different characteristics we are describing. Practise putting a strong 'h' on 'holy,' a strong 'f' on 'faithful' and a strong 'k' on 'kindness'. Also take care of the melodic D sharp in bar 10 and similar. Practise getting the pitch right by singing the phrase before and then landing and holding that note until everyone can find it straight away, every time.

Prayer

Dear God,
We thank you for all that you have done for us in our homes, schools and communities. We thank you for the gift of your precious Son, Jesus. Lord, we pray more people will know about you. Help us always to remember the power of your name and to spread your message in everything we do and everywhere we go. Amen.

Activity

This is me!

Have each member of your group think of an action to describe themselves. This might be an action to describe their favourite hobby or something to represent their personality. For example, it might be kicking an imaginary football, doing a little dance, or giving someone a hug. Go around the group getting them to say their name and perform their action.

We can have many different names and nicknames and different ways to describe ourselves. In the Bible, God is given many names to describe his character.

Thought

God is more incredible and infinite than we will ever be able to imagine. He is referred to by many different names in the Bible; each name teaches us something new about who God is and how he relates to us as his children. For example, Father, Almighty God and Lord. The name of Jesus is exalted (raised above) all names; how awesome it is that he came to earth to be our Saviour, but he is also our Lord!

Personal challenge

Take a moment to think about the name of God that resonates the most with you right now; this could be God the Father, Shepherd, or a characteristic from the song. Reflect on how God gives us all we need through his name. What name of God do you think our world needs the most right now?

Group challenge

Before you sing this song on a Sunday, ask your worship leader if you can have some time to each share a name of God that means something to you; this only needs to be a line or two per person.

