

STUDY GUIDE

MY NAME IS GOD: Week 4 3.2.14

[SET-UP]

When you hear of the word “lord” what is the first thing that comes to mind (other than God)? Is what popped in your mind a good or bad thing?

This week we talked about the name Adonai as one of the names for God found in Scripture. But the word “Adon” (Adonai is the plural of Adon) but a common word used in the Bible. It appears roughly 800 times, but only a little over half of the time is it used for God.

Adonai was used in two ways in the Old Testament: as Master or Lord and as husband. A servant would have an Adon that he or she would serve, and the Adon would provide protection and provision for the servants. Sometimes people would voluntarily become a bondservant in order to have the protection and provision of the Adon.

Adon was also used for husband. In the Ancient Near East women were married off for a bride price and were often treated as property. This was not God’s intention, but it is what was!

[DIGGING DEEPER]

Read 2 Samuel 7:1-17. What is surprising about the exchange between the Master (God) and the servant (David)? What would be expected from Adonai? What is different about this Adonai that all other Adonai?

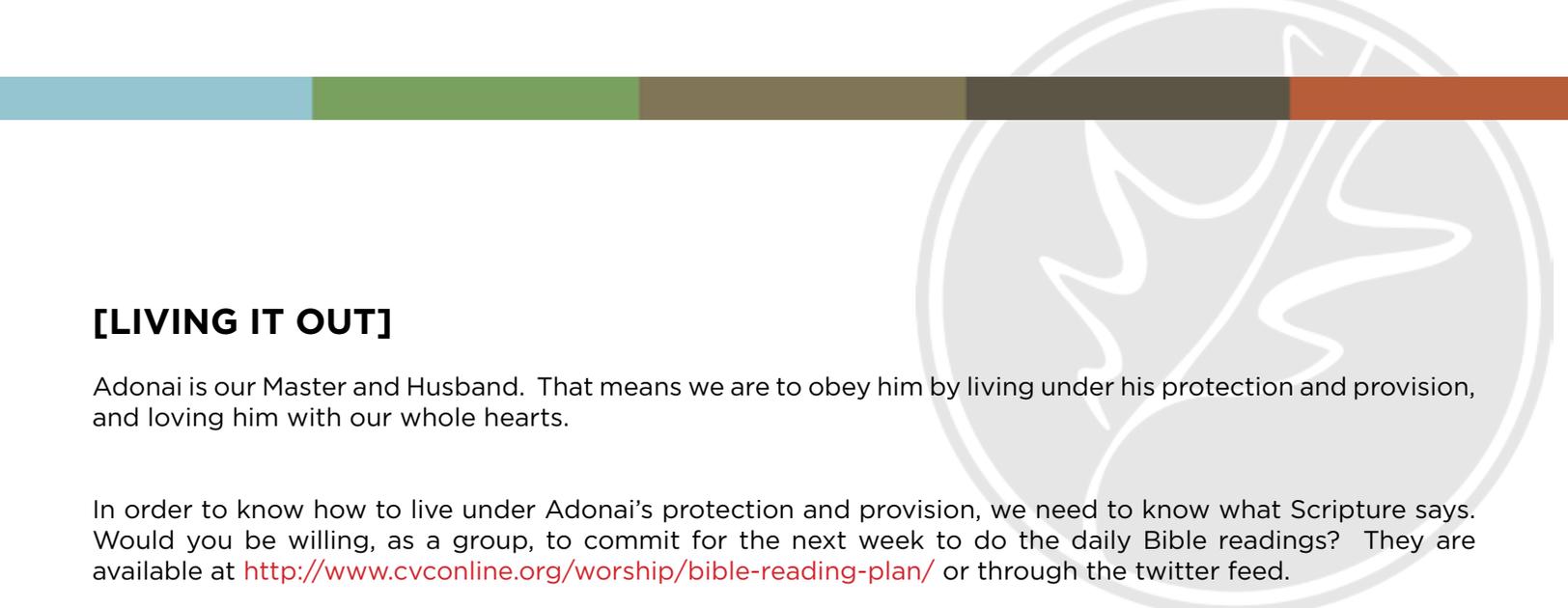
Read 2 Samuel 7:18-29. Look again at verses 20-21. Adonai promises a house/lineage for David, and Adonai did this because “according to his own heart.” Scripture tells us that God is both Master and Husband so we are to have Adonai as the Lord of our lives and the Love of our lives.

What is most difficult for you: to serve God or to love God? Why do you think this is?

God sent Jesus to serve and to love us. Read Matthew 20:25-28. What does this passage say about how Jesus is Lord?

Romans 6:15-19. What does this passage say about how Jesus is Lord?

Read Galatians 4:3-7. What does this passage say about our relationship to the great Master and Lord? How has Christ’s life, death, and resurrection changed our position toward the Master?

A decorative header at the top of the page consists of five horizontal bars of different colors: light blue, green, brown, dark grey, and orange. To the right of these bars is a large, faint circular logo containing a stylized white figure, possibly a dove or a similar symbol, set against a light grey background.

[LIVING IT OUT]

Adonai is our Master and Husband. That means we are to obey him by living under his protection and provision, and loving him with our whole hearts.

In order to know how to live under Adonai's protection and provision, we need to know what Scripture says. Would you be willing, as a group, to commit for the next week to do the daily Bible readings? They are available at <http://www.cvconline.org/worship/bible-reading-plan/> or through the twitter feed.

In order to know and grow in our love for Christ, we need to spend time with him. Spend some extended time of prayer and ask Jesus to show you how to love him more. To take it a step further, would you be willing to commit as a group to pray individually for a 30-minute period sometime this week?