

GOD IS

STUDENT BOOK

CONTENTS

Intro	2
SESSION 1	
Our Provider—Jehovah Jireh	3
SESSION 2	
Our Healer—Jehovah Rapha	5
SESSION 3	
Our Peace—Jehovah Shalom	7
SESSION 4	
Our Righteousness —Jehovah Tsidkenu	9
DEVOTIONS	11
Sermon Notes	17
Plan of Salvation	21

INTRO

Our names are important to us. The first question we often ask a person is, “What is your name?” As we get to know people, their names take on deeper significance and bring to mind the personality and character of the person. Throughout the Old Testament, God revealed different aspects of His holy character, and several names captured the essence of His character. We will look at four of these names, which provide a glimpse into the character of our loving God, and discover who He is in our lives.

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JEHOVAH JIREH

THE LORD OUR PROVIDER

MEMORY VERSE

Philippians 4:19

KEY PASSAGE

Genesis 22:1-14

NOTES

THE POINT

We can trust God to meet our needs.

THINK

READ GENESIS 22:1-2.

Describe a time when you experienced a setback.

What are the purposes of tests in our lives?

READ GENESIS 22:3-10.

How did Abraham demonstrate his faith in this passage?

When have you been tested to trust God when His provision wasn't apparent?

How have you demonstrated trust in God? In what specific areas do you need to trust God more fully?

READ GENESIS 22:11-14.

Describe a time when God has provided for you in His own timing.

How has God provided for your spiritual needs?

How can our actions and attitudes show others that we serve the God who provides?

LIVE IT OUT

CHRIST

A relationship with God is based in large part on a faith which is lived out every day. Prayer is central to a life of faith and is a continual expression of dependence upon God to provide for our needs.

Journal a brief prayer expressing your desire to live in dependence upon God. Make it a point to pray this several times a day throughout the week.

COMMUNITY

God provides for His children in many ways, and one of the biggest ways is through the church.

What needs do you have that could be met by fellow believers, perhaps even others in this group? Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it.

What needs are you aware of that God may provide for through you? If you aren't aware of any needs, look around—they're definitely there.

CULTURE

God promised to make Abraham the father of many nations—to bless the entire world through him. And this required some pretty big leaps of faith. Abraham trusted and God provided!

What risks or leaps of faith is God calling you to take so that lost people would be blessed through you?

What past experiences help you to trust that God will work through your obedience?

DEVOS

JEHOVAH JIREH

THE LORD OUR PROVIDER

READ

But I have received everything in full, and I have an abundance. I am fully supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you provided—a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will supply all your needs according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen. —PHILIPPIANS 4:18-20

THINK

In his life and ministry, Paul had faced some really difficult times. He'd been beaten, thrown in prison, and even stoned. There were times he'd gone hungry, but there were also times when Paul had all he needed. Through it all, he'd learned to trust God, and he'd found a way to be content no matter his circumstances. Contentment refers to being satisfied with whatever God provides. Years before Paul's writing this letter, the Philippian church had supported Paul in his ministry. Since then, he'd experienced many struggles as well as many victories—either way, their support had helped Paul accomplish God's purposes.

When Paul wrote this letter to the Philippian church, they'd chosen to again provide support to Paul—and he was incredibly grateful! Paul understood that this church didn't necessarily have a lot to give—at least in terms of material resources. Yet they were generous and gave sacrificially because they loved Paul and believed in his ministry. Paul saw their giving as a reflection of God's heart toward His people. Because He loves us, God is willing to go to great lengths to provide for our needs. And because our greatest need is salvation, God sent Jesus to pay the price for our sins. Since He did this, we can trust God will provide for all our needs.

LIVE IT OUT

How has someone else helped provide for you in a time of need?

How has God provided not only for your greatest spiritual need, but for your day-to-day needs as well?