

## What's in a Name?

I've watched with interest as parents choose names for their children. Some talk about it for months. They might look in a Children's Names book. Other parents might work to figure out a name that no one else has ever had. Often parents will give a newborn a name or combination of names that honor members of their families or even special friends. Still others might search the Scriptures for a name of some person whose life virtues they would hope this child would emulate.

So what's in a name? I once heard a story about a time when the Russian dictator Nikita Krushchev and his wife visited Pope John II. As the pope chatted with the two, he asked Mrs. Krushchev the names of her children. Somewhat taken aback, she inquired why he would want to know the names of her children. To which the pope replied, "Because no one says a child's name like their mother does."

Did you ever think about how significant your name is? When was the last time you considered that before you were formed in your mother's womb, the Lord knew you - - yes, He knew you by your name. He knew your name before your parents did, and He loves it because it embodies Whom He sees in you. So what is your name? Have you ever imagined Him looking at you and speaking your name?

Further, consider that when you surrendered your life to Christ Jesus, you received a new name - Christian. One in whom Christ lives. You became at that very moment a clear glass which has been and is even now filled with the resplendent light of the King of kings, the Lord of lords, the Everliving God. Wow!

So what's in a name? How about this one:



Jesus!  
Name above all names!  
Beautiful Savior!  
Glorious Lord!  
Immanuel!  
God is with us!  
Blessed Redeemer!  
Living Word!

Let's bless His name and each's others - - and our own, because of  
His grace.