

ASSIGNMENT

Lesson 3

What Has Heaven Been Calling You?

Throughout Scripture, names often carried identity, purpose, calling, and season. Sometimes God changed names, sometimes culture changed names, and sometimes pain itself tried to rename people.

Abram became Abraham.

Sarai became Sarah.

Jacob became Israel.

Simon became Peter.

Daniel was called Belteshazzar.

Esther was also known as Hadassah.

Hananiah became Shadrach.

Mishael became Meshach.

Azariah became Abednego.

And perhaps one of the most painful examples was Naomi, who said:

"Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara."

Naomi meant *pleasant*. Mara meant *bitter*.

Pain had become so heavy that she no longer recognized herself.

Sometimes pain does that.

Sometimes grief does that.

Sometimes disappointment does that.

Sometimes people do that.

Sometimes life places labels on us that heaven never spoke.

For this assignment, spend time reflecting on your own name and your own story.

Part One — Discover Your Name

Look up the meaning of:

- Your first name
- Your middle name
- Your last name (optional)

Write:

My name means

Part Two — Reflection

Answer the following:

- What surprised me about my name?
- Do I see any connection between my name and my life story?
- Why do I think my parents chose my name?
- Does anything in my name reflect my journey, personality, strengths, or desires?

Part Three — Names Given By Life

Pain often tries to rename people.

Write down names or labels that difficult seasons, people, or experiences have tried to place on you.

Examples:

- Rejected
- Broken
- Too much
- Invisible
- Abandoned
- Unworthy
- Failure
- Unwanted



Then answer:

- Which of these labels have I believed?
- Which ones am I still carrying?

Part Four — Heaven's Name

Complete this sentence:

If heaven were speaking over me in this season, perhaps God would call me...

[illegible]