



Known ^{by} Name

A NEWSTORY CHURCH SERIES

Known By Name

pt3, El Roi: The God Who Sees Me

Icebreaker: Share about the meaning behind your name (or someone else's name). How did you end up getting your name?

1) Take some time to review the story of Hagar and Sarai from Genesis 16 and the circumstances that led Hagar to give God a name, "El Roi".

- Sarai's decision to take matters into her own hands led to a difficult situation with Hagar. This story reflects the consequences of impatience in our own lives.
- Hagar was a foreigner, slave, and woman, someone who was often overlooked in society. We see that God sees and cares for those who are marginalized or oppressed.

What do the narratives above teach you about your own relationship with God?

2) Hagar's story shows that God meets us in our darkest and most painful moments. How does this truth impact your view of God during times of personal struggle or despair? Why do you think God allows Hagar to give Him a name, "El Roi"? What does this teach us about God's relationship with us?

3) In the story of Hagar (as well as Adam & Eve as referenced), we see that God always pursues us. Pastor Tom asked, "Where in your life do you feel unseen?" How have you experienced times in your life where you felt overlooked, and how did you process those emotions?

4) The sermon outlines a pattern of "Wilderness → Wonder → Witness → Worship." How does this pattern apply to our own faith journey? Have you experienced this progression before?

5) Brennan Manning's quote encourages defining ourselves as "beloved by God." What do you think about embracing this identity as your own? How can this truth of being loved by God change the way you live and interact with others?