The Ninety-Nine Names of God

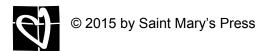
Islam insists that there is only one God. But God can be called on by many names, as the Qur'an says: "God has the Most Excellent Names. Call on Him by His Names" (7:180; quoted in N. J. Dawood, translator, *The Koran*, fifth revised edition [London: Penguin Classics, 1990], page 124; copyright © 1956, 1959, 1966, 1968, 1974, 1990 by N. J. Dawood. Used with permission of Penguin Books, Ltd.).

Traditionally there are ninety-nine names for God, most of which are given in the Qur'an. The names are important in Muslim piety; each name is sometimes repeated dozens of times in prayer, and each of the ninety-nine beads on the Muslim rosary stands for one of the names. After reading the following list of the ninety-nine names of God, complete these tasks:

- **1.** Check off any names whose meanings you do not know. Using a dictionary, look up the meanings of those names and write them below the names.
- 2. Circle all the names you have not previously thought of as applying to God.
- **3.** From the names you just circled, star the four that you would be most likely to use for God.

1.	The Beneficent	27.	The All-Seeing
2.	The Compassionate	28.	The Judge
3.	The King	29.	The Equitable
4.	The Holy	30.	The Subtle
5.	The Giver of Peace	31.	The All-Aware
6.	The Guardian	32.	The Forbearing
7.	The Powerful	33.	The Magnificent
8.	The Almighty	34.	The Remitter
9.	The Compeller	35.	The Prodigal
10.	The Greatest	36.	The Sublime
11.	The Creator	37.	The Most Great
12.	The Evolver	38.	The Preserver
13.	The Fashioner	39.	The Sustainer
14.	The Forgiver	40.	The Sufficer
15.	The Vanquisher	41.	The Majestic
16.	The Bestower	42.	The Bountiful
17.	The Sustainer	43.	The Vigilant
18.	The Revealer	44.	The Responder
19.	The Omniscient	45.	The All-Embracing
20.	The Restrainer	46.	The All-Wise
21.	The Munificent	47.	The Kind One
22.	The Degrading	48.	The All-Glorious
23.	The Enhancer	49.	The Resurrector
24.	The Exalting	50.	The Witness
25.	The Abasing	51.	The Truth
26.	The All-Hearing	52.	The Champion

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53.	The All-Powerful	77.	The Transcendent
54.	The Firm One	78.	The Benign
55.	The Protector	79.	The Accepter of Repentance
56.	The Laudable	80.	The Avenger
57.	The Appraiser	81.	The Pardoner
58.	The Originator	82.	The Most Kind
59.	The Restorer	83.	The Owner of Sovereignty
60.	The Life-Giver	84.	The Lord of All Majesty
61.	The Life-Taker	85.	The Equitable
62.	The Ever-Living	86.	The Gatherer
63.	The Dominating	87.	The Absolute
64.	The Entire	88.	The Endower
65.	The Illustrious	89.	The Averter
66.	The One	90.	The Distressor
67.	The Sanctuary	91.	The Harmer
68.	The Potent	92.	The Enricher
69.	The Omnipotent	93.	The Splendid
70.	The Advancer	94.	The Guide
71.	The Delayer	95.	The Superb
72.	The First	96.	The Everlasting
73.	The Last	97.	The Heir
74.	The Evident	98.	The All-Knowing
75.	The Hidden	99.	The Patient One
76.	The Lord		