

Bill & Kipp's Excellent Bible Adventure

John - **Episode 15** - John 6: 16-52 - *I Am Statements of Jesus*

I. Divine Name

- A. Read Exodus 3: 13-15, "But Moses said to God, 'If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?'" 14 God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I am has sent me to you.'" 15 God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."
1. Why was Moses needing to get God's name at that particular moment?
 2. In the Egyptian culture filled with a variety of names for a variety of gods, how is this one very different?
 3. In Eastern culture, to know a person's name was to know something about their nature or personality - giving a bit of control over the person. Why do you think God responds to Moses with such an obscure name, essentially "I will be who I will be?"
- B. What rituals did you learn from the video in how the name of God is treated, even to this day?
- C. How did the crowd respond to Jesus claims to be divine through his use of the name of God?

II. Flesh and Blood

- A. Read together John 6: 52-59 which is a prelude to our theology of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.
1. How did the original crowd respond?
 2. What does Communion mean to you? What do you experience when you "eat his flesh and drink his blood."

3. The Roman government thought the early church was cannibalistic, one of the reasons it was an illegal religion. How might people outside of faith respond to this description today?
- B. Jesus' claims of being divine is the central question we have to answer. Do I really believe that Jesus is divine?
1. What other options exist for understanding reality?
 2. What are the end results of those world views?
 3. Like the disciples, where else would we go? What keeps you from going there?

III. I Am Statements of Jesus

- A. Look together at the seven places Jesus uses the "I Am" statements in John. Which of these passages are meaningful to you?
1. "I am the bread of life." (John 6:35, 41, 48, 51)
 2. "I am the light of the world." (John 8:12)
 3. "I am the door of the sheep." (John 10:7,9)
 4. "I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)
 5. "I am the good shepherd." (John 10:11, 14)
 6. "I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6)
 7. "I am the true vine." (John 15:1, 5) By attached ourselves to Christ, we enable His life to flow in and through us. Then we cannot help but bear fruit that will honor the Father.
- B. How would the religious leaders and people of Jesus' day (and in the passages) respond when Jesus used this language?