

Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?

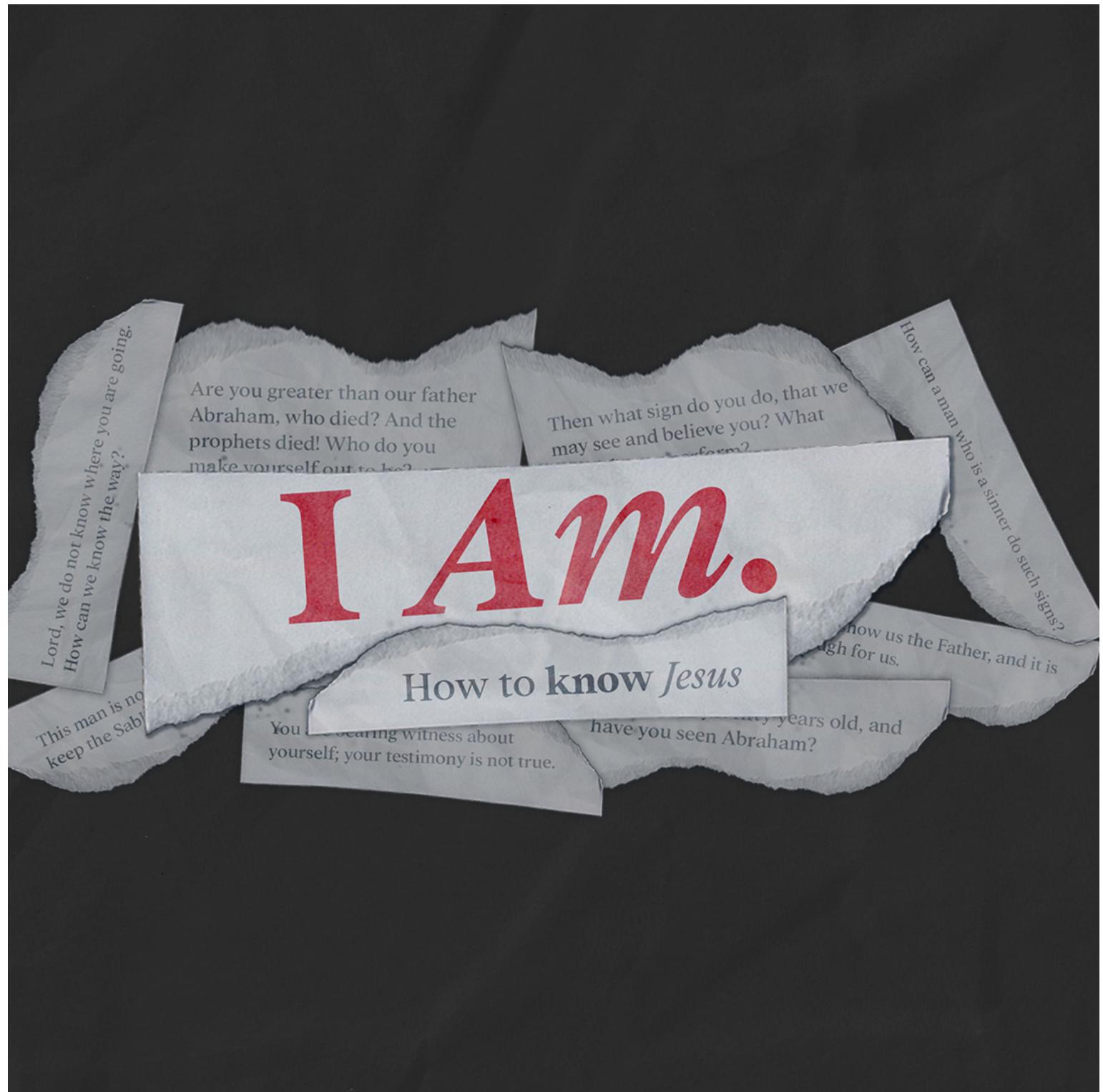
Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What

I Am.

How to know Jesus

You are a bearing witness about yourself; your testimony is not true.

... years old, and have you seen Abraham?



SESSION 8

READ

Take some time in advance to read and consider the Bible study questions and come up with personal examples to encourage discussion.

WATCH

Make sure everyone can see the screen and the audio is at a comfortable level.

DISCUSS

We hope those who participate in the study walk away knowing, feeling, and doing differently as a result of amazing discussion.

I Am.

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...many years old, and have you seen Abraham?

OPEN

What needs to happen for a plant to bear fruit? Does the fruit grow by accident, or is it the result of an intentional effort on the part of a gardener or farmer?

WATCH SESSION 8

INTRODUCTION

What are some key points that stuck out to you in the video?

READ

Read John 15:1-11

SESSION 8

THE VINE

Jesus says to his disciples “already you are clean because of the word I have spoken to you.” What does he mean by this?

Jesus has spoken a word of love to us which makes us clean. By Christ’s life, and death, and resurrection, and by the gift of faith, we are made clean. Jesus says: to abide in Him is to remain in His love.

What kind of branches does Jesus talk about?

Jesus uses the analogy of the grape vine and branches. The branches abide in the vine. This is their home.

What happens to the branches? What does this mean?

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THE VINE

If you look at a flower, or fruit tree, and trace it from the branch into the stem down into the ground you will see that there is a network of life in every part of the plant, a network that is supplied by the root drawing up nutrients into the stem and feeding out to the tip of every branch.

What does Jesus point to in this passage that would indicate that someone is abiding in Jesus? Where do you see it in the text?

One writer has put it this way: ‘Abiding in Christ must not be reduced to a mystical inner state. It must not just be a warm feeling inside’. To remain in the love of Christ we must obey his commands.

DIVE DEEPER

Read Titus 2:11-14

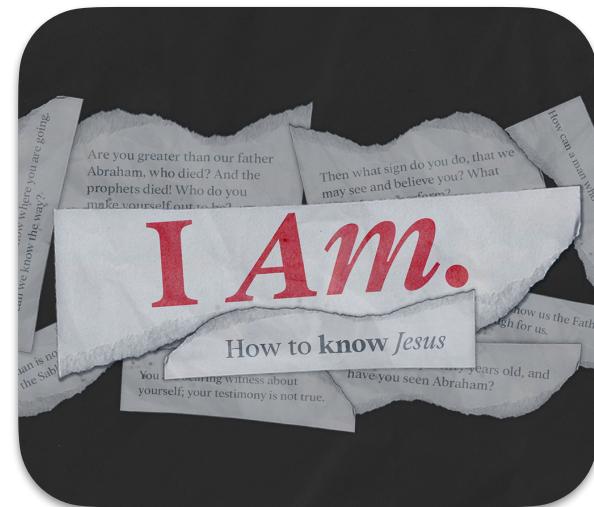
What is the relationship between salvation and good works? And how does that relate to what Jesus says in our

passage?

Salvation in Christ gives us the ability to do good works. Before salvation good works were impossible for all of us. Good works are the fruit of a true believer.

how does that relate to what Jesus says in our passage?

In the same way that we can recognize an apple tree by its fruit, we can recognize those believers who are united to Jesus, because their lives will bloom with faith.



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BIG IDEA

In this passage Jesus declares that he is the vine and Christians are the branches, meaning that spiritual life and growth comes only from faith in Jesus. There is no other way. This is essential to understanding what it means to abide in Jesus. We do this only because we are united with Jesus, one with him, as God the Holy Spirit dwells inside those who trust in Jesus.

BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Read John 15:1-11

SESSION 8

THE VINE

PERSONAL

What does it mean to abide in Jesus?
What does it look like practically?

How does the idea of abiding in Jesus change the idea of obeying his commands?

