



WEEK ONE

I Am

Exodus 3:1-15

5-DAY DEVOTIONAL • SMALL GROUP GUIDE

Meeting the Great I Am

DAY 1

The God Who Reveals Himself

READING · EXODUS 3:1-6

Moses was not searching for God that day in the wilderness. He was simply doing his work, tending his father-in-law's flock, when God interrupted his ordinary routine with something extraordinary. The burning bush was not a reward for Moses' faithfulness. It was God's sovereign choice to reveal himself. This is the nature of God. He initiates. He draws near. He calls us by name. You do not have to earn an encounter with God. He is already present in your ordinary moments, waiting to reveal himself to you in ways that cannot be denied.

REFLECTION

Where in your daily routine might God be trying to get your attention?

TRY THIS WEEK

Set aside ten minutes today in a quiet place. Ask God to reveal himself to you in a personal way, and then simply listen.

DAY 2

The Great I Am

READING · EXODUS 3:13-15

When Moses asked God for his name, God did not offer a title or a description of his abilities. He declared his very nature: I Am Who I Am. This name communicates that God is self-existent, eternal, and unchanging. He does not depend on anything outside of himself to exist or to act. He simply is. This truth is the foundation of all faith. When you pray, you are not reaching out to a distant or uncertain being. You are speaking to the God who exists completely and perfectly in himself, and who has chosen to make himself known to you.

REFLECTION

How does knowing that God is self-sufficient and eternal change the way you approach him in prayer?

TRY THIS WEEK

Write down one area of your life where you have been relying on your own understanding. Surrender that area to the I Am today.

The God Who Sees and Hears

READING · EXODUS 3:7–9

In this passage, God tells Moses that he has seen the affliction of his people, heard their cries, and knows their suffering. Israel had been in bondage for over four hundred years. It may have seemed as though heaven was silent. But God was not absent. He was attentive. He had not forgotten his people, and he has not forgotten you. Whatever pain you are carrying today, whatever cry has gone up from your heart in the quiet moments, God has heard it. His timing is not indifference. His silence is not abandonment. He sees, he hears, and he moves on behalf of those who trust him.

REFLECTION

Have you ever felt unseen or unheard by God? How does this passage speak to that experience?

TRY THIS WEEK

Write an honest prayer to God today describing exactly what you are feeling. Trust that he hears every word.

His Presence Is His Greatest Promise

READING · EXODUS 33:14–15; MATTHEW 28:20

Moses was offered the promised land without God's presence, and he refused it. That refusal reveals one of the most profound truths in all of Scripture: no blessing, no destination, and no achievement is worth having if God is not there with you. Jesus echoed this same promise when he declared that he would be with his people always. Not sometimes. Not when circumstances are favorable. Always. The presence of God is not a bonus added to the Christian life. It is the foundation of it. When everything around you is uncertain, his presence is the one constant that never wavers and never withdraws.

REFLECTION

Are you currently seeking God's blessings more than you are seeking God himself?

TRY THIS WEEK

Before asking God for anything today, spend the first few minutes of your prayer time simply acknowledging his presence and thanking him for it.

The God Who Never Changes

READING · MALACHI 3:6; HEBREWS 13:8

In a world where culture shifts, relationships strain, and circumstances change without warning, the unchanging nature of God is one of the most stabilizing truths a believer can hold onto. The same God who spoke from a burning bush, who parted the Red Sea, who raised Jesus from the dead, is the same God you have access to today. His character has not shifted. His love has not weakened. His promises have not expired. You do not need to wonder whether God is still faithful, still powerful, or still present. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever, and that changes everything.

REFLECTION

In what area of your life do you most need the stability of God's unchanging character right now?

TRY THIS WEEK

Find one promise in Scripture that speaks directly to your current situation. Write it down and return to it every day this week as a reminder that God's word does not expire.

I Am — The God Who Is Enough

OPENING PRAYER & ICE BREAKER

Ice Breaker: Think about a name—whether a person, a place, or a brand—that immediately stirs a strong feeling or memory in you. What is it about that name that carries such weight? What does that tell you about the power of names?

SERMON OVERVIEW

This week's message opens the series “Unknown God,” which walks through the names of God found throughout Scripture. Each name reveals a distinct characteristic of who God is—not merely a title, but a window into his character. Using Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush, we explore what it means to move from knowing about God to truly knowing him as the great I Am.

KEY SCRIPTURE · EXODUS 3:14

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Digging In

- 1 Before this message, how would you have described God to someone who had never heard of him? What words or images would you have used?
- 2 Read Exodus 3:1-15 together as a group. What stands out to you most from this passage? What details had you never noticed before?
- 3 Have you ever had a moment where you knew, beyond any doubt, that God was real and present? If you're comfortable, share that experience.

- 4 When God called Moses, Moses immediately listed reasons he was not qualified. God didn't argue with Moses' self-assessment—he simply said, “I will be with you.” What does that tell us about how God qualifies the people he calls?
- 5 God told Moses who he was before telling Moses what he would do. Why do you think that order matters? How might things have gone differently if God had started with the mission instead of his identity?
- 6 The message described God as one who “simply is”—not becoming, not evolving, not dependent on anything. How does that challenge or expand the way you normally think about God?

Going Deeper

- 1 “His presence is his greatest promise.” Moses was even willing to give up the promised land rather than go without God's presence. How much do you actually value God's presence in daily life—not what he can do for you, but simply being with him?
- 2 Trusting God in uncertain times is like a child grabbing a parent's hand in the dark—unable to see the way, but trusting the parent to lead. Where is God asking you to trust him without a clear map right now? What makes that difficult?
- 3 “Knowing God is greater than knowing the future.” Do you actually believe that? What would it look like to genuinely prioritize knowing God over having answers and clarity?
- 4 In the Gospels, Jesus repeatedly said “I am”—the bread of life, the light of the world, the way, the truth, and the life—and even, “Before Abraham was, I am.” How does seeing Jesus through the lens of the great I Am deepen who you understand him to be?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ **The names of God aren't just titles** — each one reveals his character.
- ✓ **Identity before assignment** — God told Moses who he was before what he would do.
- ✓ **God is not becoming** — he simply IS: no beginning, no end, needing nothing.
- ✓ **God is always present** — his presence is his greatest promise.
- ✓ **God never changes** — the bedrock beneath our feet in a shifting world.
- ✓ **Knowing God is greater than knowing the future.**

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

Choose one or more to put into practice before your group meets again:

Option 1 Study a Name of God

Pick one name of God—such as Jehovah Jireh, Jehovah Rapha, or Jehovah Shalom—and study what it means and how it reveals his character. Come back ready to share what you found.

Option 2 Write Down Your Excuses

Like Moses, most of us carry a list of reasons God can't use us. Write those reasons down, then write beside each one, "But I will be with you," and surrender them to God in prayer.

Option 3 Practice Presence Over Answers

Identify one situation where you've been demanding clarity from God. This week, instead of asking for answers, simply ask for his presence—and journal what shifts.

Option 4 Memorize an "I Am" Statement

Choose one of Jesus' "I am" statements from the Gospel of John and commit it to memory. Reflect on what that specific claim means for your life right now.

Option 5 Have an Honest Conversation

If someone in your life doesn't know God, start a conversation not about what God can do, but about who he is—sharing something personal about your own experience of his character.

CLOSING PRAYER POINTS

- That each person would move from knowing about God to truly knowing him.
- That God would grant each person an undeniable encounter with his presence.
- That fear, anxiety, and the need for control would be surrendered in exchange for trust in the great I Am.

- For anyone walking through uncertainty or pain—that they would feel God's presence as their greatest promise.
- For those who have drifted from the Lord—that this series would be a turning point back to him.

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God is not becoming. He simply is.

UNKNOWN GOD · WEEK ONE