

DISCUSSION GUIDE

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

SERMON NOTES STATEMENT I am the bread of life Έγώ είμι ὁ ἄρτος τῆς ζωῆς. PROMISE "Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." REFERENCE Exodus 16 After feeding the 5,000, Jesus and the disciples crossed over the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum. While there, the people came searching for Jesus. Seeing their true intentions and desire for more food, Jesus tells the crowd that He is the source of eternal life and sustenance. He is the bread of God that has come down

QUESTIONS

to Earth to give life to the world.

- Why were the people wanting another sign from Jesus? How does Jesus respond?
- How does the story of the Israelites' desire for food in Exodus 16 resemble the desire of the crowd in John 6?
- What is the significance behind Jesus' "I AM" statement?
- How does the metaphor of hunger and thirst demonstrate our need for Jesus?
- To what kind of life is Jesus inviting His followers to live?

I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

SERMON NOTES STATEMENT I am the light of the world. Έγώ εἰμι τὸ φῶς τοῦ κόσμου PROMISE "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." REFERENCE Genesis 1 Isaiah 42:6 Isaiah 49:6 Isaiah 51:4 During the time of Jesus, it was a tradition that during the Festival of Tabernacles, the courtyard of the Temple was filled with candlesticks and would outshine any other courtyard in Jerusalem. It is during this festival that Jesus proclaimed that He is the source of light in this world. It is only through Him, as the light of the world, that people can experience true life.

QUESTIONS

- What is the Festival of Tabernacles (John 7:1-14, Exodus 23:14-17) and why is it
 important for the people to celebrate? How does this festival set the backdrop
 and shed light on Jesus' teachings in John 7-8?
- How does the metaphor of light and darkness reveal our need for Jesus?
- What is the significance behind Jesus' "I AM" statement?
- Why were the Jewish leaders concerned with the validility of Jesus' testimony?
- To what kind of life is Jesus inviting His followers to live?

BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS BORN, I AM

STATEMENT

Before Abraham was born, I am! πρὶν Ἀβραὰμ γενέσθαι ἐγὰ εἰμί

PROMISE

"Very truly I tell you, whoever obeys my word will never see death."

REFERENCE

Genesis 12-25 Exodus 3

Trying to figure out Jesus' identity and authority, the Jewish leaders did not understand who Jesus was. Seeing themselves as the true descendants of Abraham and followers of God, Jesus claims that true children of God believe in and obey Jesus' teachings. Jesus also declared that He existed before Abraham was even born. In this statement, Jesus uses the phrase "I Am" in the absolute sense representing the Greek form of the divine name God gave to Moses in Exodus 3:14.

SERMON NOTES

QUESTIONS

- Why did the Jews question Jesus' identity and authority?
- Why is obedience so important to Jesus?
- How does Jesus describe His relationship with God the Father?
- What is the significance behind Jesus' "I AM" statement?
- How does this "I Am" statement relate to John 1:1-18?
- To what kind of life is Jesus inviting His followers to live?

I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD

STATEMENT

I am the good shepherd Έγω είμι ὁ ποιμὴν ὁ καλός

PROMISE

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

REFERENCE

Psalm 23 Ezekiel 34:11-16

Jesus claimed that He is both the shepherd that protects the flock as well as the gate through which they enter into safety. Jesus foreshadows His death and resurrection, thus showing the extent that He will go for His flock. It is only through Jesus that believers can experience abundant, eternal life.

SERMON NOTES

QUESTIONS

- Why is it important to know and listen to the shepherd?
- How does Jesus describe His relationship with God the Father?
- What is the significance behind Jesus' "I AM" statement?
- How does Jesus' death and resurrection demonstrate His love for His sheep?
- To what kind of life is Jesus inviting His followers to live?

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

STATEMENT

I am the resurrection and the life Έγώ εἰμι ἡ ἀνάστασις καὶ ἡ ζωή

PROMISE

"The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die"

REFERENCE

Romans 5-8

Upon hearing about Lazarus' death,
Jesus waited a couple of days before He
went to the village of Bethany. Once
there, he encountered Martha, Lazarus'
sister. He proclaimed to her that He is the
source of life. That in Him, those who
believe can experience resurrection from
death. Physical death will have no
spiritual effect on the believer. The
separation our sin caused between God
and us is no longer an issue because
Jesus is the source of life.

QUESTIONS

- What is the consequence of sin?
- What is the significance behind Jesus' "I AM" statement?
- How does Jesus' death and resurrection demonstrate His power and authority?
- To what kind of life is Jesus inviting His followers to live?
- What does it mean to die with Christ? What does it mean to be raised to life with Christ?

SERMON NOTES

I AM HE

SERMON NOTES STATEMENT I am he Έγώ εἰμι RESPONSE When Jesus said, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. REFERENCE Romans 5-8 Knowing what was going to happen later that night, Jesus took His disciples to the Garden of Gethsemene to pray. Sometime later, a group of soldiers and religious leaders came to where Jesus was. Upon seeing them, Jesus declared that He was Jesus of Nazareth, whom they were looking for. Is it probable that Jesus used the phrase "I AM" in the absolute sense representing the Greek form of the divine name God gave to Moses in Exodus 3:14, thus claiming to be God. Whether Jesus used "I AM" in that sense or not, there was clearly a display

QUESTIONS

of His power and authority at the

declaration of His name because the crowd drew back and fell to the ground.

- Why is it important to notice that Jesus took the initiative to acknowledge His identity?
- What is the significance behind Jesus' "I AM" statement?
- How does the response of the crowd point to Jesus' authority and power?
- Why is it important to understand that Jesus is both fully human and fully God?
- To what kind of life is Jesus inviting His followers to live?