



“I Am” PT. IV | John | Mark Allen | 04.05.26

“I Am the Identity of Christ” John’s Gospel

Opening Prayer

Begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds to understand what God wants to reveal through this study.

Icebreaker

What's one thing that sustains you daily (coffee, exercise, music, etc.)? How does that compare to what truly sustains our spiritual lives?

Key Scripture

John 1:14

John 20:30-31

Exodus 3:14

John 6:35, 8:12, 10:7, 10:11, 11:25, 14:6"

Main Takeaways

1. Jesus is God in Flesh

The term "Son of God" means "This One IS God" - Jesus didn't come just to experience humanity, but to redeem it.

2. The Seven "I Am" Statements Reveal Jesus' Character

- **Bread of Life** - The Sustainer
- **Light of the World** - The Illuminator
- **The Door** - The Opportunity
- **Good Shepherd** - The Guide
- **Resurrection and Life** - The Power
- **Way, Truth, and Life** - The Only Path to God

3. Purpose of John's Gospel

Written so we may believe Jesus is the Christ and have life in His name (John 20:30-31).

Main Takeaways

Understanding the Text

1. **What does it mean that God said "I AM" to Moses, and why is it significant that Jesus uses the same phrase?**
2. **Pastor Mark mentioned that if God took His hand off the world, everything would cease to exist. How does this understanding of Jesus as "sustainer" change your perspective on daily life?**
3. **Why do you think Jesus needed to make these seven declarations about Himself? What was He trying to communicate to His followers?**

Personal Reflection

4. **Which of the seven "I Am" statements resonates most with you right now, and why?**
 - Bread of Life (Sustainer)
 - Light of the World (Illuminator)
 - The Door (Opportunity)
 - Good Shepherd (Guide)
 - Resurrection and Life (Power)
 - Way, Truth, and Life (Only Path)

5. Pastor Mark said we need the "illuminator" to truly understand Scripture. Share a time when God opened your eyes to understand something in His Word that you'd read before but never truly saw.
6. How does the truth that "your best goodness is but filthy rags" humble you? How does it also bring you freedom??

Cultural Application

7. Pastor Mark addressed the modern idea that "that's your truth and this is my truth." How do you respond to friends, family, or coworkers who believe all truth is relative?
8. Jesus said "No one comes to the Father but through me" (John 14:6). In our pluralistic society, how can we lovingly but firmly communicate this exclusive claim of Christ?
9. Many people today are trying to get to God through good works, religion, or morality. How can we gently help them see they need Jesus as their "opportunity" (the Door)?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

- Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:
- **Option 1: Sustainer** Each morning this week, before you eat breakfast, thank Jesus that He is the Bread of Life who sustains you spiritually. Journal about one way you saw Him sustain you that day.
- **Option 2: Illuminator** Before reading Scripture this week, pray specifically: "Jesus, You are the Light. Illuminate my mind to see truth I've never seen before." Keep a list of insights God reveals.
- **Option 3: Guide** Read Psalm 23 daily this week. Each day, identify one specific way you need the Good Shepherd to guide you, and surrender that area to Him.
- **Option 4: The Door** Identify one person in your life who doesn't know Jesus. Pray for them daily this week, asking God to help them see Jesus as their opportunity for salvation. Look for a chance to share your faith.

Group Activity

"I Am" Declarations Exercise:

1. Go around the circle and have each person share which "I Am" statement they most need to embrace this week.
 2. Have the person on their right pray a short prayer asking God to reveal that aspect of Jesus to them in a fresh way.
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Closing Reflection

Key Quote from the Sermon:

"We don't get into heaven because we came and said, well, here's my truth. Here's my reality. God's not going to let you in because of that. He's going to go, yeah, but I gave you my word that told you who I was, and I told you what the ultimate truth was."

Final Question: If someone asked you this week, "Why is Jesus the only way to God?" how would you answer based on what we've discussed today?

Closing Prayer

Pray together, thanking Jesus for each of His "I Am" declarations and asking Him to make these truths real in your lives this week.

For Next Week

- Read John chapters 1-3
 - Come prepared to share how you applied this week's challenge
 - Memorize John 14:6
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Leader's Note:

- Be sensitive to those in your group who may be questioning or struggling with the exclusivity of Christ. Create space for honest questions while anchoring the discussion in Scripture's clear teaching that Jesus is the only way to the Father.