



Follow Me

Welcome to "I AM", a ten-week series focused on the "I AM" statements that Jesus proclaimed about Himself recorded throughout the Gospel of John. The "I AM" statements are about Jesus declaring His divinity as Himself with God and are images that Jesus uses to illustrate the realities of God. While this series is primarily meant for a group setting, you can easily adapt and adjust to your particular context (either doing it on your own, with your family, or some friends). We hope and pray that this guide, and the accompanying videos, will give you greater love for Jesus, embolden your faith in Him, and equip you to faithfully follow Him all of your days.

What to Expect

Each session contains several elements that are designed to cultivate community and conversation as you pursue spiritual growth. These elements include:

Watch: Watch the week's video with your group. The video is available at <https://riverlawn.org/studies> as well as within the Riverlawn app. One notable exception for videos is week 5 where we will ask your group to serve together in place of watching a video.

In The Word: The "I AM" statements made by Jesus are recorded in the Gospel of John. Each week, your group will open the Word to read and discuss the statements as well as accompanying Scriptures.

Prayer: This section includes guided prompts for you and your group to pray with, and for, one another.

Apply: Scripture implores us to "not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." (James 1:22). This section will focus on tangible ways in which we can live faithfully and fruitfully in light of the truth of Scripture.

Memorize: This section focuses on the memorization of Scripture. Each week will include the "I AM" statement with the goal of building on each week and memorizing a total of 10 verses.

Thanks

As with all of the studies and guides that we have produced, this one was not a solo project or endeavor. Countless men and women have prayed over and used their talents and time to bring about this work, all for the building up of the Church and unto the glory of God. While we could name everyone who participated, we wanted to give a special thanks to our interns during the summer of 2022. Brayden, Eli, and Kylie – thank you for all of your hard work and, most importantly, your hearts for Jesus.

Series Opener

OPEN
NEW
WORLD



Begin this time by reading the seven “I Am” statements aloud as a group:

1) Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” – John 6:35 (The Bread of Life)

2) When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” – John 8:12 (The Light of the World)

3) “I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.” – John 10:9 (The Door or The Gate for the Sheep)

4) I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.” – John 10:11,14 (The Good Shepherd)

5) Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” – John 11:25-26 (The Resurrection and the Life)

6) Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” – John 14:6 (The Way and the Truth and the Life)

7) “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener...I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” – John 15:1, 5 (The True Vine)

With these statements, Jesus is illustrating the great truth that He is God. He is not merely a good teacher or a good person, He is God. These statements give us insight and wisdom into the nature of God.

- What is something that you hope to get from this series?
- Which of these statements resonates with you the most?
- Which of these statements are hard to wrap your head around or understand?

Watch Video:

As a group, watch the series video, "I AM"

In The Word:

Read Exodus 3:1-22

- The burning bush is a theophany, a visible appearance of God. What does this passage reveal to us about God's character? His holiness?
- Who does God reveal Himself to be to Moses? What is Moses' response to the burning bush?
- What are the promises of God revealed in verses 16-22?
- Which of these promises resonates with you the most? Who is someone you can encourage by sharing these promises with?

Read John 1:1-18

- What are five statements made about the Word in verses 1-3?
- What does John say is his role in regard to the Word?
- Reread verse 14. What is significant about this verse and what does it reveal to us about Jesus?

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer as a group, asking that God would use this series, His Word, and the members of your group to draw nearer to Him, grow you in your faith, and help you live in the reality of these truths.

Apply:

- Who do you say that Jesus is? Take time this week to journal on this question and its implications. Don't merely write out the answer you think people want to hear, write out what you really believe about Jesus.
- Read the "I AM" statements of Jesus each day this week (individually, with your household, with others). Spend time in prayer, asking God to give you a greater focus on Jesus and who He is.
- In week 5, we are going to ask your group to serve together around a shared project or event. Take time this week to pray and look at different service projects in your area that might interest you that you can discuss with your group next week. If you need ideas or are looking for ways you can serve, reach out to the Discipleship Team in the church office.



Memorize

**But these are written that you may believe that
Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by
believing you may have life in his name.**

– John 20:31