

Week One: Intro to Seven 'I Am' Sayings of Jesus

OPENING PRAYER

READ | *John 6:35; 8:12; 10:9, 11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:5*

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.

¹² 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."

⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

DISCUSS

1. Why do you think Jesus describes himself in these seven different ways? What do we learn about him as 'the bread of life' and 'the good shepherd' and 'the light of the world'? How are these different sides of one coin?
2. Each 'I am' saying is followed by 'whoever follows' or 'he who believes' or 'if a man remains'. Jesus declares something about himself and then promises something for his followers. What becomes true for those who embrace Christ as, for example, 'the resurrection and the life' and/or as 'the vine'?

APPLY

1. If these seven sayings were all you had to go on, how might you describe Jesus to someone? In other words, who is Jesus based only on the verses above?
2. Are you able to understand or relate to Jesus based on one or two of these 'I am' sayings, in particular? Which one seems most readily applicable to everyday life? Which is most abstract or harder to apply?
3. How do these 'I am' saying stir your curiosity about the person of Jesus Christ and who he desires to be in your life?

CLOSING PRAYER

Prayer suggestions:

- > that through this study we would experience greater depth and freedom in the gospel of grace, and greater intimacy with Jesus Christ our Savior
- > that we would be committed to one another's spiritual growth; would build one another up during our time together; would welcome doubt, encourage questions, and celebrate belief