

I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life

Message 6 of 6 in the series: "I AM"

A. God revealed to Moses that His name is "I AM."

"... 'Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they ask me, "What is his name?" Then what shall I tell them?' God said to Moses, '**I AM WHO I AM.**' This is what you are to say to the Israelites: '**I AM** has sent me to you.'" Exodus 3:13-14 (NIV)

1. "**I AM**" is God's name because He has always existed and always will. "I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. 'I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One.'" Revelation 1:8 (NLT)
2. Jesus is "**I AM**" in the flesh. "We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then he was revealed to us. We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy." 1 John 1:1-4 (NLT)

B. The night before He was crucified Jesus told His disciples, "I AM the way, the truth, and the life."

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am. And you know the way to where I am going.' 'No, we don't know, Lord,' Thomas said. 'We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus told him, '**I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.**'" John 14:1-6 (NLT)

1. Jesus didn't say He knew the way. He said, "I AM the way."
"For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that **everyone who believes in him** will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him." John 3:16-17 (NLT)
2. Jesus didn't say I am one of many ways to God. He said, "No one can come to the Father except through me."
"**There is salvation in no one else!** God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (NLT)
"...There is one God and **one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity** - the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone." 1 Timothy 2:5-6a (NLT)
3. Jesus didn't claim to just be a great moral teacher or role model. He claimed to be "**I AM**," the source of truth and life.
"Philip said, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus replied, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? **Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father!** ...Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.'" John 14:8-11 (NLT)

C. We must decide whether or not we trust Jesus and believe He is the only way.

1. Trusting Jesus is a personal decision.
"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me." John 14:1 (NLT)
"**Come to me**, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)
2. Trusting Jesus is an urgent decision.
"When everything is ready, I will come and get you..." John 14:3a (NLT)

“...in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires. They will say, ‘What happened to the promise that Jesus is coming again? From before the times of our ancestors, everything has remained the same since the world was first created.’ ... The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, **he is being patient for your sake**. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief.” 2 Peter 3:3-4 & 9-10a (NLT)

3. Trusting Jesus is a decision to repent of our sins and to follow His leading in every part of our lives.

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved.” Romans 10:9-10 (NLT)

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Connect Group Questions:

Read John 14:1-14 & 1 John 1:1-4. Then discuss the following questions:

1. How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is preparing places for each of his followers in heaven?
2. What does the statement, “I am the way, the truth and the life” mean to you? (John 3:16, Romans 10:9-10)
3. Why did Jesus say, “No one can come to the Father except through me”? Why do you think this statement is as controversial today as it has ever been? (see Acts 4:12, 2 Timothy 2:4-6)
4. Do you agree with the statement, “Trusting Jesus is an urgent decision”? Why/Why not? (2 Peter 3:3-16)
5. How does it make you feel to hear Jesus say, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest”? (Matthew 11:28) Why don’t more people come to Jesus? What’s stopping them?
6. Discuss the following quotations:

“As the Bible teaches, there is one God, infinite, almighty, and eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each fully possesses all the attributes of deity – they are co-equal and one God.”

Centerpoint Statement of Beliefs

“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

CS Lewis

“There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.” Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)