

Introduction

John made it clear that Jesus was the expected Messiah, and that He met and exceeded all of the Jewish expectations for Messiah. He wasn't just the expected Anointed One, but He was God Himself, the Son of God. His deity is emphasized in the book of John, which can be broken up into two parts: a Book of Signs (1-12) and a Book of Glory (13-21).

This year we are memorizing Ephesians 2. This week's verse is Ephesians 2:5:
“...even when we were dead in our transgressions,
made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)...”

Day One

Read *John 1; The Preexistent Word*

1. From your study of Matthew's Gospel, what did you find particularly encouraging or convicting?

2. According to John 20:31, what is the purpose of John's Gospel? (Keep this in mind as you study this lesson.)

3. In John 1:1-5 and 9-18, who is introduced?
 - a. From verses 1-13, briefly identify qualities or purposes of the Word.

4. From John 14:8-11, 2 Corinthians 3:18-4:6, and Colossians 1:13-20, how does Jesus, the Word, reveal God's glory?
 - a. In what ways can *you* behold or see the glory of God in Christ (John 1:14) and become more like Him?

 - b. How can these truths help you fight the flesh's natural tendency towards sin?

Day Two

Read *John 8:31-59 and Selected Scripture; "I AM who I AM"*

1. **Dig Deeper:** In Exodus 3:13-14, what name does God call Himself in response to Moses' question at the burning bush, and what does the name mean? (Use your Bible study notes or other resources for help.)
 - a. From this text and Exodus 6:1-13, consider the big picture of redemptive history. What was significant about God's use of His covenant name?

 - b. Why is His covenant name important for believers today?

2. In John 8:33–40, with whom did the Jews identify themselves, and what was Jesus' response?
 - a. According to Romans 4:13–16 and Hebrews 11:8–19, what were the works of Abraham?
3. According to John 8:48–59, what claim did Jesus make regarding Himself?
 - a. What were the implications of Jesus' claim for His audience then, and for people today?
 - b. How did the Jews respond to Jesus' claim?

Day Three

Read John 6 and 8–9 and selected Scripture; The 7 "I AM Statements", Part 1

Note: John's Gospel contains dozens of instances where Jesus claimed to be God. In the Greek text of this Gospel, Jesus spoke of Himself in the same language Yahweh did in Exodus 3, saying "I AM" twenty-three times. In seven of these statements, Jesus combined His "I AM" claim with metaphors that express His relationship as Savior to the world.

1. In John 6, focusing on verses 35, 41, 48, and 51, what did Jesus claim to be as He made the first of seven "I AM" statements?
2. Read Exodus 16 and consider what Old Testament picture might have been in the minds of the Jews when they heard this claim.
 - a. Contrast the manna in the wilderness, "earthly" bread though sent from heaven, with the "Bread of Life" that came down from heaven. Use Deuteronomy 8:3 and other Scripture to support your answer.
 - b. How does John 6:60–69 relate to Jesus' "Bread of Life" discussion?
 - c. How does this passage apply to you? (See also Matthew 4:1–4 and John 4:34.)
3. According to John 8:12–30, what was Jesus' second "I AM" claim? What promise accompanied the claim?
 - a. From Exodus 13:21–22, Psalm 119:105, Isaiah 60:19–22, and Ezekiel 1:26–28, to what Old Testament concepts did this statement allude, and how does it glorify Christ?

- b. How does the knowledge that Jesus is the light of the world affect how you live now? What does following Him look like for you, personally and practically?

Day Four

Read John 10–11 and Selected Scripture; **The 7 “I AM Statements”, Part 2**

1. In John 10:7, what is the third “I AM” statement Jesus made?
 - a. List examples of these people today. How would you identify them?
2. According to John 10:7–15, how are false shepherds described?
 - a. List examples of these people today. How would you identify them?
3. In John 10:11 and 14, what was Jesus’ fourth “I AM” statement?
 - a. According to John 10:1–18 and Psalm 23, what responsibilities and actions make the Shepherd “good?”
 - b. In what areas of your life are you tempted to doubt the goodness of the Shepherd of your soul? What steps can you take to grow in your faith in this area?
4. In John 11:17–27, briefly summarize the context and the claim of Jesus’ fifth “I AM” statement.
 - a. How did Martha respond to Jesus’ claim? In what ways did the backdrop of her suffering magnify and glorify God? (See also John 11:40–42.)
 - b. Read 2 Corinthians 4:7–5:10. How does the knowledge that Jesus is both the Resurrection and the Life strengthen and encourage you?

Day Five

Read John 14–15; **The 7 “I AM Statements”, Part 3**

1. In John 14:6, what is the sixth of Jesus’ “I AM” statements?
 - a. According to John 13:31–38, why were the disciples troubled and in need of comfort?
2. From John 14, which part of Jesus’ promises means the most to you, and why?

Women of Grace

• Lesson 5 • The Gospel of John:
The Presentation of Jesus as Messiah •

3. In John 15:1–5, what imagery does Jesus use in the seventh and final “I AM” statements?
 - a. What do *you* think it means to abide in Christ?
 - b. What are some of the evidences of abiding in Jesus, the True Vine? (See also Galatians 5:22–23, Matthew 3:8–10, and Hebrews 12:8–11.)
4. Remembering the goal of John’s letter in John 20:31, how do Jesus’ seven “I AM” statements intersect with this purpose?