

The “I Am” Series – Suggestions for Life Group Leaders

Our preaching series over the next couple of months is based on seven of the “I Am ...” sayings of Jesus in John’s gospel:

Sept 4th	I AM... the Bread of Life	John 6:25-40
Sept 11th	I AM... the Light of the World	John 8:12-20
Sept 18th	I AM... the Gate	John 10:1-10
Sept 25th	I AM... the Good Shepherd	John 10:11-18
Oct 2nd	I AM... the Resurrection and the Life (AS) HARVEST (StA)	John 11:17-36 (AS) tbc (StA)
Oct 9th	HARVEST (AS) I AM... the Resurrection and the Life (StA)	John 11:17-36 (StA) tbc (AS)
Oct 16th	I AM... the Way the Truth and the Life	John 14:1-7
Oct 23rd	I AM.. The True Vine	John 15:1-8

Because Harvest falls in this period there is potentially an additional week of Life Group. There will be notes for each of the seven above plus a bonus one picking up on some additional “I Am” sayings if you are looking for Life Group material in the week when Harvest falls.

Overall Theme and Approach:

‘Identity’ seems to be the really key theme in this series. “Who is Jesus?” but also “Who am I?” as one of His followers. So included with the notes is a template form to encourage members to record something of significance each week. Please do encourage each member to use this and to bring their collected reflections to the final session.

The pattern for the notes each week is similar:

- **Discussion Starter** - which is loosely related to the passage, but everyone should be able to engage with this whatever their understanding or experience.
- **How God reveals himself** – a quick taster (mainly from the Old Testament) to remind us that the I Am statements are not the only way that God reveals himself.
- **Experiential Exploration** – approaching the subject in ways other than reading/hearing words. This will usually require some preparation of resources beforehand.
- The **Passage(s) for the week and questions** to explore this. These intentionally include life application as well as spiritual reflection and understanding.
- **Worship & Response** – which could include a song and the opportunity to reflect quietly using a psalm, music, images or an object.
- **Take home activities** - things for the week ahead

Please engage with the material as is appropriate for your group. Hopefully the structure means that you can invite anyone in your group to lead.