**“I am ...” Additional Week**

**We have an additional week’s notes for individuals and Life Groups to cover the week when Harvest is happening; at St Andrews this is 2nd October and at All Saints the 9th October.**

**We are including two passages looking at “I Am” sayings this week.**

**Resources for Preparation beforehand:**

* Who is Jesus/Who am I sheet
* A means of playing the worship song and/or copies of words for everyone
* Coffee stirrers/lolly sticks to bind into a cross
* String or wool

**Discussion Starter: Projects**

Can you tell each other about a project at home or at work which you began and carried through to the end? Would you say that you were better at starting things, keeping them going or finishing them?

**God Reveals Himself:**

“Who do people say that I am?” Jesus asked His disciples. And then he puts them on the spot, “But what about you?” he asked “Who do you say I am?” (Matt. 16, Mark 8and Luke 8). How would you feel if Jesus asked you that question?

**Experiential exploration:** Please allow time for reflection.

Using the string (with a beginning and an end) bind the stirrers or sticks into a cross.

Reflect that Jesus was there at the beginning and will be there at the end and that he is the Messiah who came to save us.

**Part 1: The Samaritan Woman**

**Reading**: John chapter 4 v 4-42

**Questions:**

1. This is the first of the “I am” sayings recorded in John’s Gospel. What is so surprising about who Jesus first chose to reveal His identity in this way?
2. What were some the results of this encounter?
3. As you draw closer to God do you feel a desire to share with others?
4. It is quite easy for us to make the assumption that there are people who are beyond redemption. Can you be honest and name some? Jesus appears to have deliberately sought out this woman of Sychar who the Jews would have considered a lost cause. Why not take some time to pray for those whom you have named and invite Jesus to meet with them.

Note about who the Samaritans were if you need it: “... they were the descendants of Jewish people who had intermarried with non-Jewish people. 700 hundred years before Jesus was born, Assyrian armies conquered the Northern part of the land of Israel and brought in other conquered peoples from other parts of their empire. These non-Jews intermarried with the Jewish people left in the land. Their descendants gradually adopted the Jewish faith, but were barred from worshipping at the Temple in Jerusalem and built a rival temple on Mount Gerizim, but the Jews eventually tore it down” [from Douglas Connelly, “The ‘I Am’ Sayings of Christ”, IVP, 2018]

**Part 2: Revelation**

**Reading**: Revelation 1 v 4-18 & Rev 22 v7-8

**Questions:**

1. John continues to include “I am” sayings in the book of Revelation. Which can you see in the passage from Revelation 1 v4-18? What do you see as the significance of each?
2. John is given a vision of history from the perspective of its final conclusion and sees Jesus hand and presence in every moment from its creation through to its conclusion. How does this make you feel?
3. As you consider your history, your family, your work, your frontline where do you see a need to be more conscious of Jesus’ transforming presence?

**Response & Worship:**

Holding your crosses made earlier quietly read and reflect on John 1 v1-5

***Song suggestion:***

***Build My Life*** [Build My Life - Lyric Video (Pat Barrett) - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xh86R7_w1_8)

**Take Aways:**

* Encourage everyone to record something on their “Who is Jesus/Who am I” sheet and bring it to add to each week.
* For during the week:
	+ Are there any projects which need more attention to get them active or completed that you could help with?
	+ Continue to pray for those for whom recognition of Jesus or repentance seems like a distance prospect

**Build My Life**

Verse 1

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Verse 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Brett Younker | Karl Martin | Kirby Kaple | Matt Redman | Pat Barrett

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