

Week 1 - I Am Who I Am—Wayne Burnham

I AM Series Overview

Jesus' "I am" statements would have particular significance to the first-century Jewish listener. God had revealed Himself to Moses with a resounding "I AM" ([Exodus 3:14](#)). Jesus used the same words to describe Himself ([Exodus 4:26; 6:20; 13:19](#)).

- We begin a new series looking at the "I am" statements Jesus made about himself
- What we believe and do about Jesus is the most important thing that matters in life

John 8:58—Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I am.**"

- Jesus claim that "before Abraham was, I am" was a scandalous statement to the Pharisees
- Abraham was the patriarch of the Israelites "The Father of Many Nations"
- Jesus was challenging their entire heritage in one statement
- The name "I am" came from Moses' personal interaction directly with God in the burning bush

Genesis 1:1 ESV—In the beginning, **God** created the heavens and the earth

Hebrew - God = ELOHIM (title referring to deity)

Exodus 3:2—And the angel of the **LORD** appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.

Hebrew - LORD = YAHWEH

Exodus 3:12—He said, "But **I will be with you**, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Exodus 3:14—God said to Moses, "**I am who I am.**"^[a] And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

What does this statement mean?

- Other ways of translating this statement "I am who I am"
 - "I will be what I will be"
 - "I am the One who is"
 - "I am absolutely perfect, complete"

Matthew 16:13-16— **13** Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "**Who do people say that the Son of Man is?**" **14** And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." **15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"** **16** Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

What you think about when you think about God is the most important thing about you.
- A.W. Tozer

As a follower of The I AM... I am _____

When I understand who Jesus is as the great I AM, it changes the response of who I am

1. I am created in _____. "I am not worthless"
2. I am saved because ___ died in my place "I'm given eternal life"
3. I am under the _____ of the One who sits on the throne "I've been given incredible power"
4. I am an _____ of God "I am a child of the KING"
5. I am being transformed by His Spirit's work in my life "I am being renewed day by day"

For Small Group Discussion: Which I Am statement from the sermon did you resonate with the most? What are you excited about in this new sermon series?

Opening Question: How did you get your name? What does it mean?

Main Point: What we believe and do about Jesus is the most important thing that matters in life.

Main Scripture: Exodus 3:1-17

Head:

- What did God mean when He said that Moses was standing on holy ground? Is holy ground something that we encounter today?
- What does this story show us about how God views His people?

Heart:

- What does this encounter with God reveal about who He is?
- Moses tried to dismiss God's calling because of his own inadequacies. What are some excuses you might have for not being used by God?

Hands:

- What are some opportunities for you to join in on God's mission?
- How can you get to know God on a deeper level this summer?

Additional Scripture: Revelation 1:18, Proverbs 18:10, Psalm 20:7, John 1:1

Tips and Resources: *More Than a Carpenter* by Josh McDowell