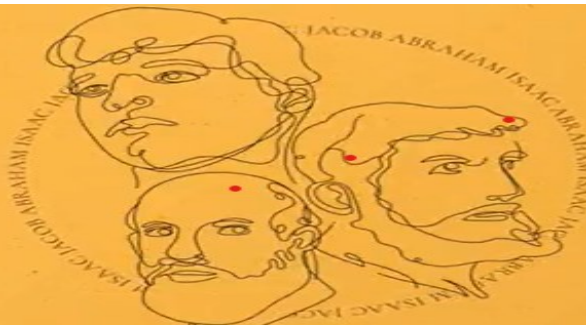


THE GOD of our FATHERS



Title: : **JESUS THE CHRIST IS THE GREAT I AM—Part 2**

Date: SEPT. 24, 2023

Leader's Notes:

1. Start and end the life group on time.
2. Facilitate discussions with your group and **give all attendees opportunities to share their thoughts**. Encourage participation.

Life Group Discussion Proper

WORSHIP: (15 mins)

Option 1: In person - Home gatherings

Suggestions: Assign someone to lead worship or play two praise & worship songs from You Tube.

Option 2: In person gatherings at a public place (at the park, school campus or café) or Online home gathering (via Zoom or other online meeting platform)

Suggestions: Ask three to four people to share testimonies of answered prayers or ask the question: Ask the group, "What are you thankful to God about this past week?"

Main Text: John 8:52-59 NLT

Intro: God didn't reveal His Name to Moses as I WAS WHO I WAS or I WILL BE WHO I WILL BE! But as I AM WHO I AM, the Eternally Present I AM! There is no past or future with God, but He is the Ever-present, Self-existent (no one created Him), Self-contained, Self-sufficient God! I AM WHO I WANT TO DECLARE MYSELF to be! The compound names of God are all extensions of His name, I AM. I AM the LORD (Yahweh), I AM your source of Peace, I AM your Provider, I AM your Healer, I AM your ultimate Victory, I AM your Shepherd, I AM your Righteousness, I AM your Deliverer, I AM your Redeemer, I AM the Almighty, Most High God.

WELCOME:(15 mins): IWC - Introduce yourself. Welcome guests/first-time visitors. Cheerfully call someone to do the same.

Ice-breaker: Ask the group and give time for participation.

- > *Is there anyone who would like to share a verse you have memorized this past week?*
- > *Is there anyone who would like to share something you received from your daily devotions this past week?*

WORD (30– 45 mins)

4. I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD – Read John 10:11-15 NLT

– He is the caring, protective, and sacrificial leader of His followers, guiding them in their spiritual journey and offering them eternal life through His love and sacrifice. Jesus never claimed, "I am the High Priest, but He claimed "I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD" who is responsible for the sheep. The Good Shepherd loves His sheep, leads His sheep, lays down His life for His sheep. A sheep can't live and can't survive without a shepherd! In the same manner that we can't survive without Christ!

Read Psalm 23 – The Lord is my Shepherd!

Q: How do you feel about the truth that we can always be guided by our Lord Jesus Christ as our Good Shepherd?

5. I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE — Read John 11:21-27 NLT

- When we die that's not the end, there's more to that! He is the Resurrection & the Life!

- Jesus was making a powerful statement about His divinity, His mission to offer eternal life, and His authority over death. This statement challenges individuals to place their faith in Him, recognizing that through Him, they can experience spiritual rebirth and the hope of eternal life in God's presence.

Q: How many of us have the assurance of our salvation? That whatever happens we know we are going to heaven and that we have eternal life?

Continuation:

6: I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE— READ JOHN14:1-6

Jesus said, I AM THE WAY—He is the Ultimate GPS – God Positioning System! I AM the TRUTH – Jesus is the Ultimate Truth, I AM the LIFE – there is no life outside of Christ!

- Jesus is the exclusive means to God, the embodiment of divine truth, and the source of abundant and eternal life. This statement underscores His unique role in the salvation and spiritual journey of believers, emphasizing the importance of faith in Him as the pathway to God and ultimate truth.

Q: When was the last time we have introduced someone or shared Jesus to a friend? How did they respond to your message?

7. I AM THE VINE - Read John15:1-5 NLT, Galatians 5:22-23 NLT

The closer we stay to the Vine, to Jesus, the more fruitful you will be! We are to stay connected to Jesus if we want to bear fruit! If we stay connected to Jesus, some fruit, more fruit... much fruit! We are never closer to the Vine, to the Father than you are when you are being pruned. It's during this time of pruning (trials and problems) that we become Christ-like. Fruit is for the benefit of others! He wants us to impact the lives of others because of what **CHRIST HAS DONE** and **DOING** in our lives! Fruit that eats itself is a rotten fruit! Meaning it's all about myself, I don't need Jesus, I don't need to abide in the VINE!

Q: Are we a fruit-bearing Christian or a rotting Christian?

Jesus was emphasizing the core of an abiding relationship with Him for spiritual growth, fruitfulness, and the manifestation of godly character in the lives of His followers. It underscores the importance of depending on Him for spiritual life and vitality, just as branches rely on the vine for their sustenance. God wants us to bear fruit so that through us other people may benefit from our relationship with Jesus so that those who are disconnect from Him may find themselves restored to a loving and growing relationship with God.

Q: Read Galatians 5:22-23 NLT. During times of difficulties, do we experience the fruit of the Spirit growing and developing in us?

Conclusion:

God's blessings upon Abraham and his descendants were not solely for their benefit but rather, through them, to extend His blessings to all the families of the earth. The complete power and resources of Yahweh were firmly on their side so that others could also come to know God. This divine plan was fully realized through Jesus the Messiah. Likewise, Jesus the Great I AM will shower us with spiritual blessings, not merely for our own consumption, but with the purpose that through us, the world may come to know Him and experience the blessings of a vibrant relationship with Him.

WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST TAKE-AWAY FROM THE LESSON?

Tell your group to partner with someone and ask this question to their partner.

Q: What impacted you the most from this lesson?

WORK: The Challenge & Closing prayer (15 mins.)

1. Memorize a verse from your devotions this week and be prepared to share it on our next gathering.
2. Please take time in your smaller groups to pray for one another. If there are specific needs, take time to lift them up to God in prayer as well. Ask each other, "**what can I pray for you?**"

Leader's Notes:

1. Please remind your group the schedule for the next gathering.
2. Please ask your group to invite people for the next gathering.
3. Please encourage the group to remember to pray for one another during the week.