

A silhouette of a person walking away from the viewer, centered in the frame. The person is wearing a dark jacket and pants. The background is a dark gradient with a bright light source behind the person, creating a glow around their silhouette. Overlaid on the image is the text 'THIS QUESTION IS FOR YOU' in a large, white, serif font, arranged in three lines. Below this, the text 'WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Underneath that is the date '2023-02-26' in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the image is the text 'Participant Notes' in a white, sans-serif font.

THIS QUESTION IS FOR YOU

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?

2023-02-26

Participant Notes

OVERVIEW:

Welcome to our series, 'This Question is FOR YOU"! In this series we will explore 4 questions Jesus asks us. These questions Jesus asks are designed to get us thinking about who Jesus is and how we can follow him well. Deciding who you will say Jesus is, is an unavoidable question. Today's question is - Who do you say I am? What about you? Have you asked yourself the question? Have you decided? Whether you are considering becoming a follower of Jesus or you have been following Jesus for many years, allow today's question to prompt a response in you of taking a step closer to him.

ICEBREAKER: My Baptism Story

This Sunday we watched people at Creekside declare their faith in Jesus by being baptized. This is a powerful moment in their lives as they share their testimony of what Jesus has done for them and pledge their lives to follow him. What about you? Have you declared your faith in Jesus by being baptized? Are there questions you would have before making this decision? Share your story with the group!

STUDY:

Jesus asked a lot of questions. He used questions as a powerful teaching tool to draw people to him and to grow his disciples in their faith. Jesus' questions invite us to engage with him, to consider his question and to formulate a reasoned response. For today's study, we'll look at a key question Jesus asks and we'll dig into 7 statements Jesus makes about who he is. As we look at Jesus' question and statements, we'll ask - "how does this invite me closer to Jesus?"

1. Think about today's question from Jesus - "Who Do You Say That I Am?"
 - How would you personally answer? Who has Jesus been to you in your own life?
2. How has your answer to this question changed over the years?
 - What events or people have influenced your answer?
3. Sometimes Jesus is described using these 4 terms: Saviour, Teacher, Lord and Friend.
 - Do find each of these equally easy to embrace or do you find some of them to be more difficult?

Jesus uses the phrase "I AM" in seven declarations about himself. Each of these statements point to his unique divine identity and purpose as the Son of God. Explore what each of these mean about who Jesus is and how we can respond as his followers.

4. "I AM the Bread of Life"

READ John 6:35, 41, 48, 51

- What does this statement tell you about who Jesus is?
- How does Jesus' statement invite you to take a step closer to him?

5. "I AM the Light of the World"

READ John 8:12

- What can we learn from this statement about who Jesus is?
- How does Jesus' statement invite you to grow your walk with him?

6. "I AM the Gate"

READ John 10:9

"Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pasture." NLT

- What does this statement tell you about who Jesus is?
- How does Jesus' statement invite you to take a step closer to him?

7. "I AM the Good Shepherd"

READ John 10:14-15

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own sheep, and they know me, just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep." NLT

- What can we learn from this statement about who Jesus is?
- How does this statement draw you to Jesus?

8. I AM the Resurrection and the Life

READ John 11:25-26

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" NIV

- What can we learn from this statement about who Jesus is?
- How does this statement invite you to take a step closer to him?

9. I AM the Way, The Truth and The Life

READ John 14:6

6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." NIV

- What can we learn from this statement about who Jesus is?
- How does this statement invite you to take a step closer to him?

10. I AM the Vine

READ John 15:5

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." NIV

- What can we learn from this statement about who Jesus is?
- How does this statement invite you to take a step closer to him?

11. Which of Jesus' I AM statements is speaking to you most powerfully today?

PRAY:

Father, thank you for drawing me closer to you through your Son, Jesus. Thank you that Jesus is Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me to walk in the way of Jesus. Give me your power to live in your truth. Thank you for the assurance that my life is in You. Jesus, thank you for being the Vine. Help me to stay closely connected to you as I read your word and meet with your people. Thank you for your amazing love for me! In Jesus' Name, AMEN.