



I Am The Way The Truth The Life | James Powell | 04.07.2024
Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

How was your week?! Share a praise and a prayer.

Describe a perfect day for you, from start to finish.

Which part of "I am the way, the truth, and the life" intrigues you the most?

GROW

Welcome to week six of our "I Am" series here at Red Rocks. As we continue to walk through the seven "I am" statements made by Jesus, our aim is to discover the characteristics and attributes of God as we look at the life of Jesus so we can Know God, Live on Purpose, and Go Change the World. This week, Pastor James broke down Jesus' sixth "I Am" statement in the Gospel of John, *I Am The Way, The Truth, and The Life*.

In a world saturated with conflicting ideologies and shifting moral standards, where relativism reigns and individual autonomy is exalted above all else, the assertion of an exclusive truth and a singular path to life may seem jarring or even offensive to some. When taken at face value, it's easy to understand why bitter hearts and wounded souls may dismiss, or even push back against this profound statement. If we're not careful, we can get caught in an Old Testament

way of thinking—becoming more committed to memorizing and adhering to the Word, when what we've truly been invited to do is to encounter the One who spoke it into existence, allowing His presence to transform us in the process. This week, will you commit to digging beneath the surface, not simply to understand God's will, but to experience the life He has for you?

Read John 14:6-7 NIV

Is there something from James' message that spoke to you?

What is your current understanding of John 14:6-7? What does it mean to you and your faith?

Read Romans 8:1-4 NLT, Galatians 2:16, 21 NLT

What connections do you see between the two verses above and John 14:6-7?

What do these three verses reveal about God's heart and plan for your life?

M O V E

In the Old Testament, we witness a recurring pattern of failure among God's people as they strive to uphold the law. Despite their efforts, they repeatedly fall short. One of the most significant failures lies in the disparity between what God intended through the law—transformed hearts—and what He received: reluctant outward compliance without genuine inner change.

God emphasizes the importance of the heart over external actions, as seen when He warns Joshua, "The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." Jesus echoes this sentiment in Matthew 23:26, "Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside of it may also become clean."

In a world that teaches our worth and value are determined by how hard we work and what we have to offer, it's easy to become so obsessed with checking all the boxes that we forget to check the posture of our hearts. Fortunately, Jesus offers an alternative. When He says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life," He is extending an invitation to come under His yoke, enjoy His presence, and embrace the process of becoming more like Christ—an adventure that will lead to life-changing transformation. When we take Jesus up on this offer, obedience becomes the byproduct of a purified heart, not a means to an end in and of itself. For "The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 NIV, John 1:16-17 NIV

What are some takeaways from the verses and passage above?

Reflect on the idea that obedience should be a byproduct of a purified heart, rather than a means to an end. How does this perspective reshape your understanding of obedience and discipleship?

Are you currently striving to meet certain standards in your life or faith journey, hoping that by doing so, you'll finally be "worthy," or "good enough" to experience something you've been waiting for? Explain.

Any final thoughts from the message this week?

P R A Y

Jesus, thank you for fulfilling the law and accomplishing what we never could, so we can experience life like we never have. This week, would you remind us that there is nothing we could ever do you earn or deserve the love and grace you give to us—you give it freely because You are who You say you are. In a world that offers alternative paths to counterfeit things that our souls long for, we know that You are the way, the truth, and the life.