



I Am The Vine | Shawn Johnson | 04.13.2024  
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.

**Share a high and a low from this week.**

**What's your favorite summer activity?**

## GROW

Welcome to the final week of our "I Am" series here at Red Rocks. Our goal during this series was to discover the characteristics and attributes of God by looking at the life of Jesus and the statements He made so we can *Know God, Live on Purpose, and Go Change the World*. This week, Pastor Shawn broke down Jesus' final statement, "I Am the Vine" and discussed what it looks like to abide in Jesus.

In this I am statement, Jesus beautifully illustrates the importance of remaining connected to Him throughout our daily lives. Just as a branch disconnected from the vine bears no fruit, we, too, struggle when disconnected from our relationship with Jesus. We live in a world that preaches individuality and complete freedom to "make your own way," viewing a relationship with Jesus as restricting and oppressive. Throughout John 15, however, we see that Jesus is actually inviting us to stay rooted and connected to the source of life, strength, provision, and peace. Not only that, but abiding in the vine ensures that we're present and available for the gardener (God) to tend the soil and prune the branches of our life, which allows us to live healthier, more fruitful lives than we ever could on our own.

**Read John 15:1-7**

**Reflect on a time when you felt deeply connected to God, like a branch connected to the vine. What circumstances or practices contributed to that connection?**

**In verse 2, Jesus talks about pruning branches that bear fruit. What do you think this pruning process might look like in our lives? How do you respond to pruning experiences?**

**Jesus emphasizes the importance of abiding in him. What are some practical ways we can abide in Christ in our daily lives?**

**Reflect on a time when you saw or experienced the fruit abiding in Jesus, either in your life or in others. What did that experience teach you about God's work in and through you?**

**M O V E**

Each week, we've had the opportunity to explore each of the "I am" statements individually. This approach has provided us with a deeper understanding of God's character. However, when considered together, these statements weave a larger narrative of God's profound love for us and His will for our lives. Jesus summarizes all of this perfectly in Matthew 22:37-40 when he instructed us to love God with all our heart, mind, and soul and to love our neighbors as ourselves. That's it!

Maintaining our faith isn't always that easy, but abiding in God's will for our life is that simple. As we journey forward in our faith and our relationship with God, our prayer is that this series has enabled you to know and love God more intentionally, to embrace His love for you with greater grace and freedom, and to empower you to live on mission and full of purpose everywhere you go.

Review the seven "I am" statements.

**"I am the bread of life" - John 6:35, 48**

**"I am the light of the world" - John 8:12**

**"I am the door [or gate] of the sheep" - John 10:7, 9**

**"I am the good shepherd" - John 10:11, 14**

**"I am the resurrection and the life" - John 11:25**

**"I am the way, and the truth, and the life" - John 14:6**

**"I am the true vine" - John 15:1, 5**

**When you look at all seven "I am" statements together, what do you see? What do you feel?**

**How has this series helped you develop a better understanding of God's characteristics and attributes? How do you know Him or understand Him better now than you did seven weeks ago?**

**What was the most impactful thing God revealed to you during this series?**

**What kind of growth, healing, or transformation have you experienced throughout this series?**

**P R A Y**

As you pray this week, remember that there is no right or wrong way to pray. When you feel like you don't know what to say, remember the PRAYS acrostic: Praise, Repent, Ask, Your Will, and Show Me. Prayer builds our relationship with God, provides peace, and invites God's power, provision, and will into our lives.