

I am in I AM

Sermon Discussion Participant's Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To discuss specific aspects of our lives that will change when we consider the truest thing about ourselves to be that we are "in Christ".

Sermon Refresher: This week Dave told us that the Bible is one big story showing that Jesus is Yahweh, the I Am. If Jesus is the I Am, then this changes who we are.

Icebreaker: Imagine that your best friend, spouse, or family member was introducing you to a group of people who don't know you. What would they probably say about you? What sort of information would be important for them to share as they briefly sum up who you are?

Transition: We define ourselves all the time. We refer to relationships, occupations, physical characteristics and more to give other people a better understanding of who we are. God does the same in the Bible to help us understand who he is. Then he goes on to demonstrate how who he is actually affects who we are as well.

Discussion:

1. Let's review what it means that God is I Am. What are some of the statements God makes about who he is?
2. In his sermon, Dave talked about having an If/Then faith: if Jesus really rose from the dead, then everything he claimed about himself must also be true. Why does the truth of the resurrection prove the validity of Jesus' and the Apostles' other claims as well?
3. According to a recent survey, people's number one dying regret is: "I wish I'd had the courage to live a life true to myself." How does our culture define "being true to yourself"? What values are emphasized?

THE **crossing** **small groups**

4. Share about a situation or area in your life in which you are feeling pressure to find and be your authentic self. How are you being influenced by society's definition of "true to yourself"?
5. Dave said that because of the resurrection, Christ is your identity—your significance, your glory, your righteousness, your holiness, your redemption, your true beauty, your security, and your belonging...

How would the situations discussed in question 4 change if you approached them from the perspective of who you truly are in Christ?

Sharing and Prayer:

Read Psalm 16:8—

I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

What's an area of your life that you need to define the way God defines it? Pray that this aspect of your identity would not be shaken.