

## **Series Title:** The 'I AM' Statements | Who Are You?

Here's a 7-week sermon series on the "I AM" statements of Jesus from the Gospel of John. Each message dives into one "I AM" statement to reveal aspects of Jesus' identity and the impact of those truths on our lives. Explore the seven "I AM" statements of Jesus and discover how each truth can deepen our relationship with Him and transform our daily lives.

Week 1: The Word Became Flesh, Revealed Himself (ASA)

John 1:1-14

### **Week 1: "I Am the Bread of Life" (Chad)**

- **Text:** John 6:25-35
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as our ultimate sustenance
- **Big Idea:** Jesus alone satisfies the deepest hunger in our souls.
- **Key Verse:** John 6:35 – “Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’”
- **Practical Application:** Reflect on areas where you seek fulfillment outside of Christ. Practice turning to Jesus first for comfort, guidance, and satisfaction.
- **Illustration:** Imagine a person who fills up on junk food all day, snacking on chips, sweets, and sodas. While these foods are easy to grab and taste great, they don't provide the nourishment the body truly needs. Despite eating so much, the person ends up feeling sluggish, unsatisfied, and still hungry because they haven't taken in anything that truly sustains.
  - **Point:** This is like how we can fill our lives with things that seem satisfying—social media, entertainment, money, or popularity—but they don't nourish our souls. Just like “empty calories” fail to sustain our bodies, these pursuits leave us spiritually hungry. Jesus, the Bread of Life, offers true sustenance, filling the deepest hunger that nothing else can satisfy.

## Week 2: "I Am the Light of the World"

- **Text:** John 8:12-30
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as the source of spiritual light and truth
- **Big Idea:** Jesus brings light into our darkness, guiding us and revealing truth.
- **Key Verse:** John 8:12 – “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”
- **Practical Application:** Examine areas in life where there’s darkness—confusion, fear, or sin—and invite Jesus' light into those areas.
- **Illustration:** Picture a ship in the middle of a raging storm, surrounded by darkness. The captain can't see the rocky shore and is at risk of shipwrecking. Then, a lighthouse appears, its powerful beam piercing the darkness and leading the ship to safe harbor.
  - **Point:** Jesus is our lighthouse in the storms of life. When life feels overwhelming, His light cuts through, guiding us safely toward Him and away from danger.

## Week 3: "I Am the Door"

- **Text:** John 10:7-10
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as the gateway to abundant life
- **Big Idea:** Jesus is the only way to experience true, abundant life.
- **Key Verse:** John 10:9 – “I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”
- **Practical Application:** Reflect on whether you’re entering life’s decisions through Jesus, seeking His guidance as the "door" to the best path.
- **Illustration:** Think of a special event with a VIP section. Many want access, but only those with a special pass or keycard can enter. The main event is vibrant and exciting, full of meaningful interactions. Yet, those without access must watch from the outside, unable to experience what’s happening within.
  - **Point:** Jesus is like that VIP entrance, but instead of needing a ticket or special privilege, anyone can enter by choosing to believe in Him. He offers free access to an abundant, purposeful life in God’s presence. Without Jesus, we miss out on the “main event” of experiencing life to its fullest as God intended.

## Week 4: "I Am the Good Shepherd"

- **Text:** John 10:11-18
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as our protector and provider
- **Big Idea:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd who knows, leads, and sacrifices for His sheep.
- **Key Verse:** John 10:11 – “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”
- **Practical Application:** Trust Jesus to lead, protect, and care for you. Identify fears or anxieties you can hand over to Him, trusting His shepherd’s care.
- **Illustration:** In some parts of the world, shepherds use GPS technology to track each sheep’s location, especially in challenging terrain. If one wanders, the shepherd can locate it quickly and bring it back. This technology, combined with the shepherd’s care, shows his commitment to the flock’s well-being, as he constantly monitors and intervenes when necessary.
  - **Point:** Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, is always aware of where we are in life— He knows when we wander, when we’re in danger, and when we need His guidance. His “tracking” of us is out of love, ensuring we’re not alone and guiding us back to safety.

## Week 5: "I Am the Resurrection and the Life"

- **Text:** John 11:17-27
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as the conqueror of death and source of eternal life
- **Big Idea:** Jesus not only gives life but is life, offering hope beyond physical death.
- **Key Verse:** John 11:25 – “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.”
- **Practical Application:** Place your hope in Jesus for both life now and life after death. Reflect on areas where you need to trust Him to bring "life" to situations that seem dead.
- **Illustration:** We see in nature that winter brings death to trees and plants, yet every spring they come back to life. Flowers bloom again, trees grow new leaves, and life fills the once barren land. This seasonal change illustrates resurrection in a

powerful way: though things may look dead, new life is always possible. Similarly, Jesus brings life after death, both physically and spiritually, offering us the promise of hope and new beginnings in Him.

- Point: Challenge the congregation to see “winter seasons” in their lives—times of hardship or dryness—as temporary. Encourage them to trust that, through Jesus, a “spring” is coming, and that what seems dead can come to life again.

## Week 6: "I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life"

- **Text:** John 14:1-6
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as the only path to the Father and the source of ultimate truth
- **Big Idea:** Jesus is the way to God, the truth of God, and the life with God.
- **Key Verse:** John 14:6 – “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”
- **Practical Application:** Commit to following Jesus as the ultimate guide in life, trusting His truth above competing voices.
- **Illustration:** Imagine a climber attempting to reach the summit of a treacherous mountain. Multiple paths lead partway up, but only one leads safely to the top. A seasoned guide, who knows every inch of the mountain, offers to lead the climber along the only path that reaches the summit. Without the guide, any other path would result in danger or a dead end.
  - Point: Just as the climber must rely on the guide who knows the way, we need Jesus to lead us to the Father. He is the only sure path. Without Jesus, we can try various routes in life, but only He leads us safely to God and eternal life.

## Week 7: "I Am the True Vine"

- **Text:** John 15:1-8
- **Key Theme:** Jesus as the source of spiritual growth and fruitfulness
- **Big Idea:** Staying connected to Jesus, the "true vine," is essential for a fruitful, purposeful life.
- **Key Verse:** John 15:5 – “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.”

- **Practical Application:** Prioritize daily connection with Jesus through prayer, Scripture, and community to bear spiritual fruit.
- **Illustration:** Imagine a beautiful lamp that's ready to shine light across a room. However, unless it's plugged into a power source, it won't be able to fulfill its purpose, no matter how well-designed or placed it is. Only when it's connected to the outlet does it have the energy needed to light up the space.
  - **Point:** We're like that lamp. Jesus is our power source, the "true vine." Without staying connected to Him, we're unable to live out our purpose or produce spiritual fruit. Only through Him can we receive the strength, guidance, and life needed to make a difference in the world.

This series is designed to deepen understanding of Jesus' identity, encouraging the congregation to draw closer to Him by examining each "I AM" statement, reflecting on His character and promises, and applying His teachings to their lives.