

Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email info@revolutionky.org.

Series Synopsis

According to its author, the gospel of John was written "so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). Over and over again in this gospel Jesus refers to himself as "I am," connecting himself to God as the one who reveals the Father to the world. The God who was named "I AM" to Moses and Israel, now revealed in Christ the Son. In this series we will explore seven of the "I am" statements and metaphors of Jesus, as they draw us deeper into the mystery of God and show us the way to life in Jesus' name.

Message Synopsis

"I am" identifies God as the source of all being and life. God is the great provider, and in God we live, and move, and have our being. Just as God provided manna for the Israelites in the wilderness, so now God offers the Son as the bread of life for all. It is the true bread of heaven that gives us spiritual sustenance and brings us together in community, without which we die. If we eat of this bread, we will never hunger again.

Key Scriptures

John 6:22-59 is our key Scripture for this week, but you may also relate passages such as *John 4:1-26* and *Matthew 7:7-11, 21-23*.

Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. Bread (and food in general) has a powerful way of bringing people together. We need both food and relationship to survive and thrive. And Jesus is this source of all life. When have you experienced the power of bread/food in building community?
2. What is your favorite meal to share with others? Why?
3. How does Jesus' teaching on being the bread of life impact how you experience communion? What questions do you still have about this sacrament of the church?

Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

“The Gospel of John: Part 1 (Session 7)” - by Tony Evans

(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/289490?episode=7>

1. It can be easy to seek the “goodies” of God at the neglect of the Giver, especially when He provides for us in so many ways, day-in and day-out. Has God ever used physical provision to reveal Himself to you – as a means to give you some form of spiritual provision? How did you feel when you realized what God was doing “behind the scenes?” Share your experiences with your group.
2. When Jesus didn’t give the people what they expected (a physical king or a genie to grant their wishes), they rejected Him. When has God not provided the way you expected, and how did that challenge your faith? How did you overcome?
3. How does this message impact your prayer life? How can you move from a gift-centered prayer life to a Giver-centered prayer life?
4. This message emphasizes the importance of giving thanks to God for His many blessings. Having a perspective of gratefulness toward God’s gifts helps keep us grounded in His love and character, without trying to take advantage of His generosity. It also helps us avoid a spirit of entitlement. Make a commitment to increase your thanksgiving during this Lent and agree to keep your group accountable as we journey to uncover more of who Jesus is in the weeks ahead.

Family-Related Questions:

1. As parents, we all know what it’s like to be taken advantage of. Sometimes, it feels like all our kids want is our money, our protection, or for us to get them out of a mess – but do they really want US in the process? Reflect for a moment on how this makes you feel and then consider how Jesus felt in this week’s Scripture. Are there specific ways you deal with this scenario in your family (maybe even some boundaries or traditions celebrated around birthdays and Christmas)?
2. What does this (the scenario in #1) say about God’s continued provision for us, even when we’re ungrateful?
3. How can you model a prayer life and spiritual relationship to your family that puts the Giver first?