



## WEEK 1 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### CONNECT

This week, we start our new “I AM” series. Whenever Jesus makes an “I AM” statement, He says it with great confidence and certainty about Himself. God has given us certain gifts, talents, or personality traits that are meant to bless not just us but those around us. What gifts and talents do you feel confident God has given you?

### CONSIDER

What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

### CHRIST

Read John 8:19-30 as a group.

During this series we are going to be studying the “I AM” statements that Jesus made during His time here on earth. “I AM” statements are statements such as “I am the bread of life,” or “I am the light of the world” that Jesus made. These statements are important because they show that Jesus is who He says He is, which is the long-awaited Messiah or Anointed one.

- **Jesus is point blank asked, “Who are you?” What is Jesus' response to this question?**
- In verse 28 it says, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man.” This is referring to the crucifixion of Jesus that is soon to come. Jesus is again predicting His own future. Again showing who He really is. **When did you first realize that you KNEW who Jesus is?**
- There is a difference between knowing about Jesus and actually knowing Jesus. When you actually know someone you keep getting to know them and keep spending time with them. There is always more to learn about your friends and family, God is similar in this way. There is always more to learn about Him! **Do you feel you're actively living this out? Or is this a place where you could improve? Remember, everyone is made differently; and, therefore, everyone connects and learns about God in different ways. What are ways you like to get to know God?**

In these verses Jesus said 3 things that He is NOT.

1. I am not ALONE.
2. I am not OF THIS WORLD.
3. I am not SEEKING MY OWN GLORY.

These 3 statements of who Jesus is not tells us a lot about who He is!

- I am not ALONE: Jesus was never alone because God was always with Him, and they are one. God is always with us through His Spirit. **When you think about God's Spirit that is with us and in us, how does that make you feel? Does this give you comfort or distress?**
- I am not OF THIS WORLD: Because of sin, this world that we live in is always trying to distract us from God, make us busy, and make us turn away from God. **What are the top things that distract you from God?**
- I am not SEEKING MY OWN GLORY: Jesus' ONLY goal was God's goal. The cross was the goal, and this would bring glory to God. In our own lives, it is Satan's goal that we bring glory to only ourselves. **What are ways that you can start or continue bringing glory to God in your own life?**

## CALLING

- I Am the True Vine: God is the vine, and we are the branches. In order to stay alive, a branch MUST stay connected to its vine, or it will die. This is true for us in how we need to stay connected to God. Without God, we will be lost. **How is God calling you to stay connected to Him this week?**
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text DEVO to 81212 or use the Study tab in Northside's mobile app for daily devotions.
- **Memorize:** *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*  
**John 8:12 (NIV)**
- **Further Study:** Watch this Bible Project to get to know more about God:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eAvYmE2YYIU>