

A LIFE TRANSFORMED

Talk the Word

Bible Study Resource



The
I AM
SAYINGS OF
Jesus

LIFE TRANSFORMED THROUGH THE BIBLE

THE INTRO

The 'I am' statements that Jesus makes in John's Gospel are amongst the best-known and loved verses within the whole Bible. On seven occasions in John's Gospel, Jesus uses the phrase 'I am' to explain who he is, why he came, and what he offers to those who choose to follow him.

Receiving and responding to the words of Jesus transforms life. In the introduction to his Gospel, John writes, 'Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given' (John 1:16). All of the 'I am' statements reflect this sense of the fullness of life that Christ offers. In these deeply personal sayings, Christ offers us himself, and through receiving and responding to his words, we receive Christ, and all that he offers.

May these words of Christ transform us as we read and reflect on them.

OUTLINE OF STUDIES

This series contains seven individual studies:

Study 1	I am the Bread of Life	John 6:29-35
Study 2	I am the Light of the World	John 8:12-18
Study 3	I am the Gate	John 10:7-10
Study 4	I am the Good Shepherd	John 10:11-15
Study 5	I am the Resurrection	John 11:21-27
Study 6	I am the Way	John 14:1-7
Study 7	I am the Vine	John 15:1-4

These studies use the Talk the Word method (described overleaf). This simple but incredibly effective way of studying the Biblical text brings the words of Jesus to life. These words of Jesus would originally have been told person to person, rather than read. In repeating these words of Jesus in this vivid way, we can hear afresh the life transforming words of Jesus Christ.

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Prepare

The Leader memorises and practices the text before the study: make it memorable! Think about the words to emphasise, and use your face and whole body to express the text as you speak!

Introduction

Pray to start

Outline the process: Bibles and scripts put away! This study involves listening, remembering and repeating the Bible passage we hear.

Briefly introduce the **context of the passage**.

Talk the Word

Leader recites the text twice

Get folk into pairs, with one person repeating as much of the text as they can remember.

Leader recites the text a **third time**, leaving gaps for everyone to shout out the missing word or phrase.

Back into pairs, with the other person repeating as much of the text as they can remember.

Leader recites the text **one final time**, again leaving gaps.

Questions

- a) What jumped out at you from the passage?
- b) What questions do you have about this passage?
- c) What does this passage teach us about the heart of humanity?
- d) What does this passage teach us about the heart of God?
- e) How can this passage be applied to our lives?

Challenge the group to share this passage this week

Pray to close

John 6:29-35

²⁹ Jesus answered, 'The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.'

³⁰ So they asked him, 'What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?' ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: "He gave them bread from heaven to eat."

³² Jesus said to them, 'Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

³⁴ 'Sir,' they said, 'always give us this bread.'

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.'

John 8:12-18

¹² 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.'

¹³ The Pharisees challenged him, 'Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.'

¹⁴ Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. ¹⁶ But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. ¹⁷ In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. ¹⁸ I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.'

John 10:7-10

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, 'Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:11-15

¹¹ 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ 'I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 11:21-27

²¹ 'Lord,' Martha said to Jesus, 'if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'

²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.'

²³ Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.'

²⁴ Martha answered, 'I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.'

²⁵ Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'

²⁷ 'Yes, Lord,' she replied, 'I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.'

John 14:1-7

¹ 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ² My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going.'

⁵ Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

⁶ Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.'

John 15:1-4

¹ I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

The Word of God is full of living power.
 HEBREWS 4:12 (NLT)



Daniel

living faithfully
in a foreign land

DANIEL

CONVERSATIONS STUDY

Daniel has been a source of comfort and challenge for God's people throughout the generations, particularly when they have experienced a sense of 'exile'. This study covers the first six chapters of the book.



FIRST SAMUEL

1 SAMUEL

TALK THE WORD STUDY

The book of Samuel marks the end of the Judges, when 'Israel had no king, and everyone did as they saw fit' (Judges 17:6) but through it all we see God drawing His people back to him.



Isaiah

Servant Songs

ISAIAH SERVANT SONGS

LECTIO STUDY

Written during a time of transition - God spoke clearly through Isaiah to remind His people to turn back to Him. God reminds them, and us today, of possible judgement but also of His provision of a wonderful Saviour and Redeemer.



Titus

TITUS

MANUSCRIPT STUDY

Titus is a Pastoral Letter written by Paul to his friend and trusted leader Titus, who had the task of pastoring a church in Crete and appointing its leaders. The book is practical, useful and inspiring for us to consider today.



MATTHEW: MIRACLES

MATTHEW MIRACLES

TALK THE WORD STUDY

This study covers fourteen passages in Matthew's Gospel in which Jesus displays miraculous power. Through this study, we can enter into the experience of those who encountered Jesus' miracles.



AMOS

AMOS

CONVERSATIONS STUDY

At a time of apparent success, God condemns his people for the social injustice that exists and for their failure to keep their promises to Him. But the book of Amos ends with a message of hope.

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