

If Jesus asked you this question, what would you reply?

Would it come from your knowledge (head) or the way you live your life (heart)?

Both are important but often we believe the facts but do not embrace them in our lives. Why is this?

There are seven "I Am" statements made by Jesus in the Gospel of John.

During 2023 we will reflect and pray about all seven.

Last month we did "I Am the Resurrection and The Life." Check out our website for further details.

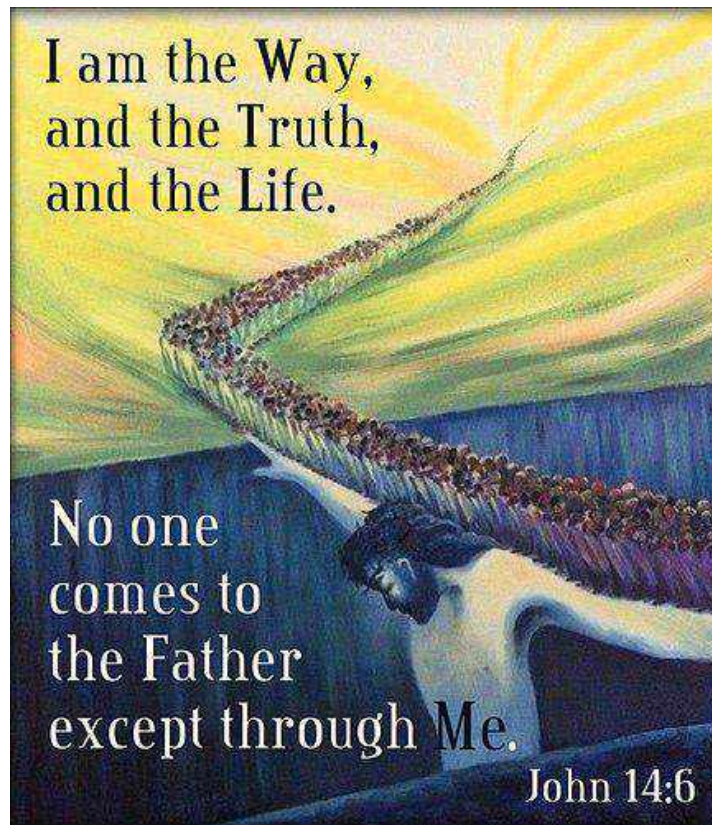
<https://godmanchesterbaptist.org/prayer/>



"As Jesus walked along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw two fishermen, Simon and his brother Andrew, catching fish with a net."

"Jesus said to them, 'Come with me, and I will teach you to catch people.' At once they left their nets and went with him."

Mark 1:16-18 / GNT 2017



I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE.

Reflection: Jesus is the only way to a fulfilling life with meaning and significance.

Read John 14:

Jesus is having a conversation with his disciples on the last night before the crucifixion. They are confused and want to know where Jesus is going and why they could not follow him. After all, when he called them, he had said "Follow me" and they had done this so far. Human instinct is to understand where we are going so, we know when we get there. Jesus makes it clear we are tasked with simply knowing and trusting him daily and walking in faith that HE is the way. The destination is eternal life in heaven with our Father God. This passage is a reminder and a challenge to chase after what matters, what will have an eternal impact.

What direction is my life heading in?

Read Matthew 16:24

Where do I get my truth from? There is no shortage of voices telling you "Truth". If you are not careful these voices will become the TRUTH of your life. Jesus' truth will not let you down. It has been tried and tested over thousands of years.

PRAYER OF EXAMEN

This is a tool used to help you reflect upon your day to help you better partner with God and be aware of how you are or are not experiencing the reality of God in your life.

Maybe ask yourself some questions such as:

How did I follow Jesus' way, living out the truth that is Jesus today?

How free was I today to be who Jesus created me to be?

What promoted this ability to be free today?

What hindered my ability to be free?

BREATH PRAYER

This is a style of prayer you incorporate throughout your day as you breathe.

It is typically 7 – 9 syllables.

This month's breath prayer is "Jesus, I will follow you... You are THE way."

ACTIONS

Take a walk along a familiar path – Ponder on these questions.

What does this path provide for me? What does this path keep me from experiencing? Is this path a negative or restrictive experience or a good and helpful aid to my journey.

Now imagine you are walking the Way of Jesus. Ask yourself the same questions and use the walk as a time of prayer and discussion with Jesus looking at the way your life is going now.

List 7 truths of life which you have chosen to build your life upon. – Why are they important to you? Rank the list and think about whether these truths really set you free to live your best life. Now look at the truths that the bible states about Jesus in the poster WHO I AM IN CHRIST. How do they compare?

Contemplate the questions with the road signs- Make these the basis of your prayers this month.

Your Relationship with God – looking UP

- Ask the Lord to show areas of your life where you are holding back from completely following him. (e.g., in the giving of your resources, in the use of your time, in your relationships, in your workplace etc.)
- Ask the Lord to help you turn away from your old way of doing things so that you can follow His way.

Your relationship with your church community – looking IN

- What do you think you need to have a good Life?
- The world tells us that the good life is found in appeasing our own desires. In contrast Jesus says the good life is found when we lay down our life.
- What might you have to give up to follow Jesus?
- What might you have to give up to help serve your fellow Christians?

Your relationship with those outside church – looking OUT

- Do you believe Jesus is God himself and not just another religious teacher?
- An infinite being can say with certainty whether there is one God or many, and whether there are multiple ways to know him or not.
- How do we respond to those who criticize Christians for claiming that Jesus is the only way to God?

IF ANYONE WOULD
COME AFTER ME,
LET HIM DENY HIMSELF
AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS
AND FOLLOW ME.



MATTHEW 16:24

" THERE IS NO ONE ELSE WHO
HAS THE POWER TO SAVE US,
FOR THERE IS ONLY *one* NAME
TO WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN
AUTHORITY BY WHICH WE
MUST EXPERIENCE SALVATION:

THE NAME
OF *Jesus*."

ACTS 4:12 TPT

Covenant Prayer

**I am no longer my own,
but yours.**

**Put me to what you will,
rank me with whom you will.**

**Put me to doing,
put me to suffering.**

**Let me be employed for you
or laid aside for you,
exalted for you
or brought low for you.**

**Let me be full,
let me be empty.**

**Let me have all things,
let me have nothing.**

**I freely and wholeheartedly yield all
things to your pleasure and disposal.**

**And now, glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine, and I am yours.**

So be it.

**And the covenant now made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven.**

Amen.

JOHN WESLEY

Who i am in CHRiST

- I am forgiven.* (Ephesians 1:3-4)
- I am reconciled with God.* (2 Corinthians 5:18-19)
- I am rescued.* (Matthew 20:28)
- I am redeemed.* (Ephesians 1:3-11)
- I am bought with a price and belong to God.* (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- I am known by God.* (Romans 8:29)
- I am chosen.* (Romans 8:30)
- I am justified before God.* (Romans 3:24)
- I am accepted.* (Romans 15:7)
- I am saved.* (Romans 8:28)
- I am alive.* (Romans 8:11)
- I am free.* (John 8:33-36)
- I am secure.* (Romans 8:28, 31-39)
- I am a new creature.* (2 Corinthians 5:17, 16-19)
- I am born of God.* (John 1:12-13)
- I am adopted by God.* (Romans 8:15)
- I am a child of the promise.* (Romans 9:8)
- I am Jesus' friend.* (John 15:14)
- I am a citizen of heaven.* (Ephesians 2:19)
- I am a member of Christ's body.* (1 Corinthians 12:27)
- I am sealed.* (2 Corinthians 1:22)
- I am loved.* (Romans 8:3)



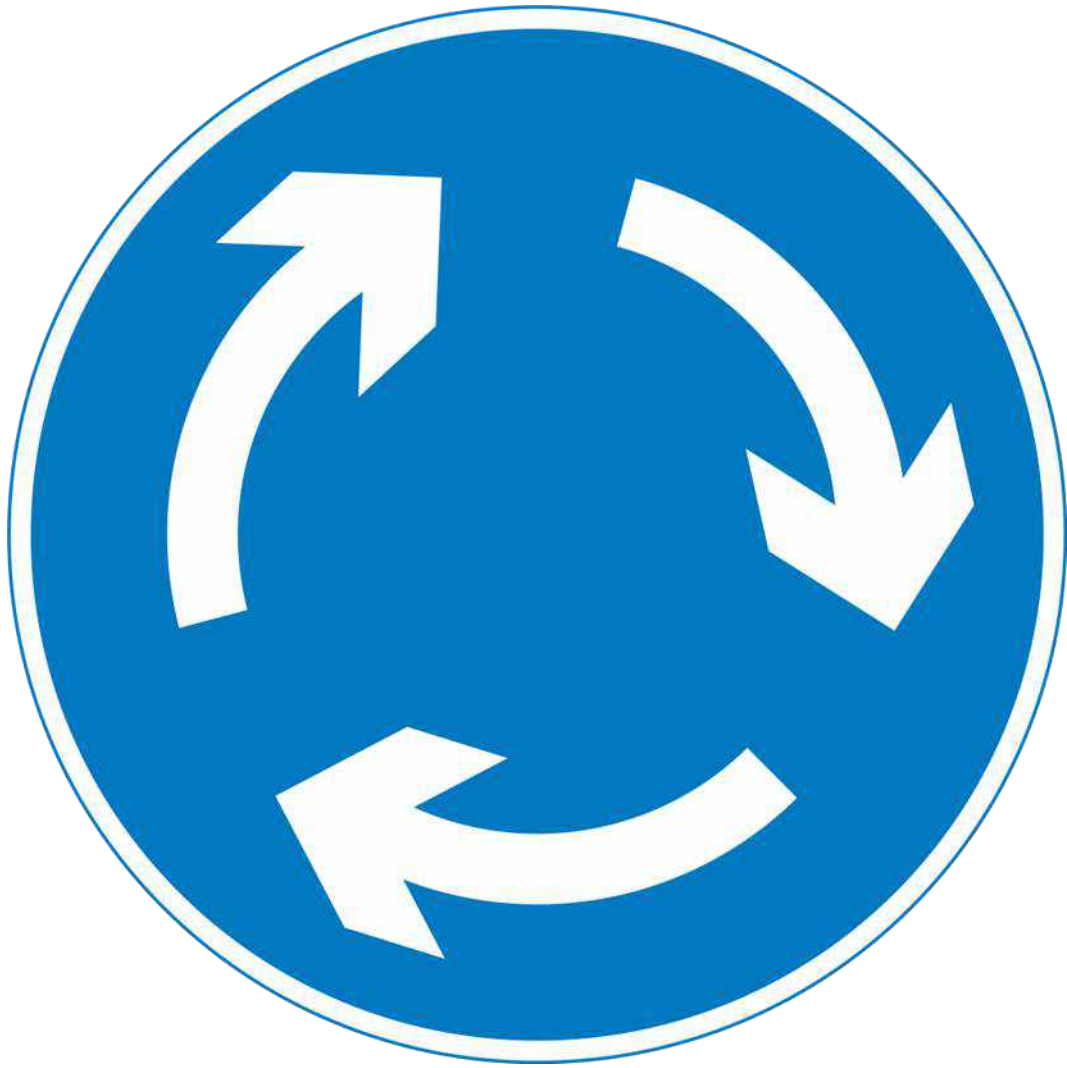
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How firm or slippery is your road through life right now?



Have you ever given God the right of way in your life to direct your path?



Do you feel trapped in a cycle in your life that you cannot get out of?



Which times in your life have felt *easy*, like you were freewheeling on a bicycle?



What obstacles are you facing that are blocking your progress in Life?



What unwise decisions do you regret?



Do you feel like you have choices to make that will impact your life – choices you would like help with in deciding which road to take?



Do you feel that you are on the right road in your life?



Stop here for a while to think over the questions you have been asking about the road your life is on.

Trust God from the bottom of your heart; do not try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he is the one who will keep you on track.

If you want help with your life's direction, ask God now for help.