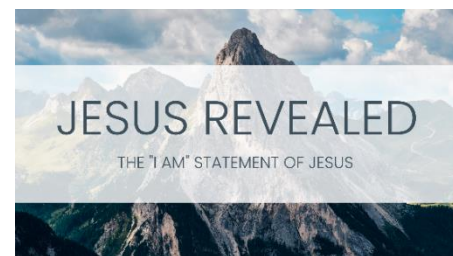


In worship this week we will explore another "I Am" statement from Jesus - "I Am The Resurrection and The Life". In this final week of our Jesus Revealed series, we will discover how all the I Am statements point to the resurrection of Jesus helping us to understand our role in God's story and how we are called to live because of Jesus!



Questions for Reflection:

*"I am the
resurrection
and the life."*
JOHN 11:25



- Do you think Martha believes that Jesus is the resurrection and the life? Why or why not? What do you think Martha and Mary want or expect Jesus to do when he arrives after Lazarus dies?
- Jesus commands for Lazarus's binds to be taken off. What binds you and keeps you from living a life of fearless trust in the Resurrection? What would it mean for you to live an unbounded life?
- Think about your daily habits, or your weekly, monthly, or yearly patterns. What assumptions about death and life are built into those habits? How would it change things if you committed to living as if death truly weren't the end?
- We are part of the Resurrection story. What can you do to participate in this story, living as if your life matters?
- How does the hope of resurrection set other aspects of your life in perspective? How might you approach them differently if you were to take the Resurrection seriously?
- How do the I Am statements we've learned about enrich your understanding of the resurrection of Jesus? How do they sharpen your perspective on the life we are called to lead as followers of Christ?
- What will you do differently as a result of this Jesus Revealed study?

Prayer: Christ Jesus, you are the light of the world. You are the bread of life. You are the gate and the good shepherd. You are the vine and we are the branches. You are the way, the truth, and the life. You are the resurrection and the life. Because of who you are, we know who we are. We are your followers, whose path you illuminate. We are your followers, whom you sustain and guide. We are your followers, whom you connect to yourself and to one another. We are your followers on the way of suffering which is the way of life. We are your followers forever, because death is not the end. Lord Jesus, we love you. We trust you. Amen.

Adapted from Jesus Revealed Leader Guide, pgs 56-63

Spiritual Practice: Celebration



We are all probably familiar with celebrations for birthdays and holidays and other special occasions. Gathering with friends and family in honor of a special event are important moments in our lives. The spiritual practice of celebration invites us to celebrate in light of God's love, provision and blessings. When we practice the discipline of celebration, we intentionally recognize that our world, the beauty around us, the food we eat, our relationships, and all our blessings come from God. In his book *The Spirit of the Disciplines*, Dallas Willard wrote: "We engage in celebration when we enjoy ourselves, our life, our world, in conjunction with our faith and confidence in God's greatness, beauty and

goodness." Celebration is about finding joy in living our lives in relationship with God. Celebration is about showing appreciation and respect for God. The spiritual practice of celebration is not a feeling, but a choice we make. Even in challenging times, the spiritual practice of celebration helps us to remember that God is with us in and through all things, helping us to find peace in the presence of God. Celebration as a spiritual practice reminds us that God in Christ Jesus makes all things new. The Bible is full of examples of celebration and remembering what God has done! So, celebrate! Give thanks to God! Sing, dance, and jump for joy! Read a Psalm, then pray it and then try singing it. Make an effort to remember God's goodness, even when you are having a bad day. Sit in a quiet space and listen for the sounds of nature echoing their celebration to God. Celebrate alone or with family and friends, in silence or out loud. Celebrate the goodness of God in all you do!

"This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD..." (Exodus 12:14)

"Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thess. 5:16-18)