



Bible Study

LESSON 2: GOD'S NAME

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HE so I Bible Study - Introduction

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God's Name

MEMORY VERSE

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Issac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is My name forever, and thus am I to be remembered throughout all generations."
Exodus 3:14-15

Section 1: HE is...

One of the first things that we learn about a person is their name. The most direct use of our name is to differentiate us from other people.

As we look to know and understand God, we will start by discovering His name.

Read Exodus 3:13-15.

What is the name that God provides to Moses?

Make five observations about God's name from these verses.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word "*sem*" is translated as "name." This meaning of name goes beyond just identifying the person. The name of a person was associated with the character, nature, and reputation of the individual. The *sem* or name of a person is synonymous with their identity.

The name that God provides for Himself is YHWH. The Bible translates this as "I AM who I AM."

What observations about God's identity can you make from His revelation of His name?

God is
the great
I AM.

God takes His name, and its meaning, very seriously.

Read Exodus 20:7.

The Hebrew word “*sem*” is used for “name” in this commandment. How does this change your understanding of this commandment about God’s name?

Because of this commandment, the Jewish people revere the name of God in very special ways. To ensure that they do not use His name inappropriately, they will not even write this name. Every time that the name of God, YHWH, is used in the Old Testament, they replaced it with the Hebrew word *adoni*, which is translated as LORD.

Read Isaiah 42:8-9.

Make observations about God from these verses.

Identity is the set of principles, perspectives, purposes, and priorities that we hold, consciously or unconsciously, at our core, that guides our feelings, decisions, and behaviors. As we seek to deepen our understanding of who God is, we want to discover His principles, His perspectives, His purposes, and His priorities. We want to understand God’s identity.

Based on your observations from the previous passage, answer the following questions focused on the different aspects of God’s identity.

What is a *principle* or truth God wants us to know about Him?

What is a *perspective* or point-of-view God wants us to know about Him?

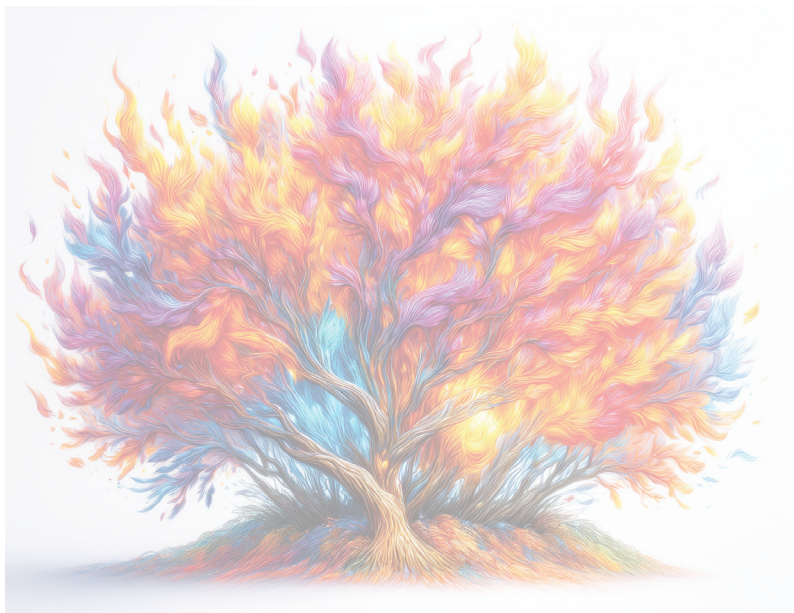
What is a *purpose* or motivation God wants us to know about Him?

What is a *priority* or decision God wants us to know about Him?

To investigate this idea in the New Testament, read John 8:48-59.

Write some observations from the passage.

How does this passage help in developing your understanding of God as the I AM?



The goal of this study is to allow God to reveal who He is by teaching us about Himself. We want to develop an understanding of who God is. In this lesson, we want to answer the question:

What does it mean that God is the I AM?

To more fully answer this question, allow God to lead you to scripture that deepens your knowledge of God as the I AM.

Write the scripture passage from the Old Testament about God being the I AM.

Scripture:

Write some observations about who God is from this passage.

Based on your observations, which aspects of God's identity does this passage reveal?

When identifying the aspects represented, the observations must support at least one, but it does not need to represent all four aspects.

Principles (truth)	Perspectives (point-of-view)	Purposes (motivation)	Priorities (decisions)

Find a scripture passage in the New Testament about God being the I AM.

Scripture:

Write some observations about who God is from this passage.

Based on your observations, which aspects of God's identity does this passage reveal?

When identifying the aspects represented, the observations must support at least one, but it does not need to represent all four aspects.

Principles (truth)	Perspectives (point-of-view)	Purposes (motivation)	Priorities (decisions)

Take some time to reflect on what you have learned from the study, up to this point. What is one key lesson you have learned about the identity of God?

Based on your study, what does it mean that God is the great I AM?

Section 2: So I can be...

Learning about God's nature helps us understand who we were created to be. We want to transform our identity to reflect His identity.

God's principles are reflected in our *principles*.

God's perspective are reflected in our *perspectives*.

God's purposes are reflected in our *purposes*.

God's priorities are reflected in our *priorities*.

This is the transformation of our identity that we want to see God do in our life.

As part of this transformation, we need to identify what is not aligned with what is true about God.

Read Psalm 14:1-3.

Write up to five observations from this passage.

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

Based on your observations from this passage, which aspects of the identity of a "fool" does this passage reveal?

When identifying the aspects represented, the observations must support at least one, but it does not need to represent all four aspects.

Principles (truth)	Perspectives (point-of-view)	Purposes (motivation)	Priorities (decisions)

Based on this passage, how do the principles, perspectives, purposes and priorities of the “fool” align with those of God, the I AM?

The process of transforming our identity involves three stages: submit, sacrifice, and substitute.

Submit: Agree with God that there is an aspect of our identity that He wants to transform.

Sacrifice: Putting to death this aspect of our old identity by choosing to not use it.

Substitute: Allow God to replace the old identity with a new aspect of our identity.

What aspect of the identity of a “fool” would you believe would need to be transformed?

What would God want to substitute as the new identity?

We now want to take time to discover what you learned about God as the I AM and what does God want to transform in your identity. Take some time to review what we have learned about God’s identity, the 4 P’s.

What is God showing you about who He is? Is there a principle, perspective, purpose, or priority that you have that is not aligned with God’s?

What is God calling you to submit to His design, based on what you have learned?

The process of sacrificing is purposely putting to death the principle, perspective, purpose, or priority that does not align with God or His design for us. This is leaving behind or putting off that specific aspect of our old identity so that God can substitute as an aspect of our new identity.

Identify the principle, perspective, purpose or priority that God is calling you to sacrifice and what does He want to substitute.

Sacrifice	Substitute

Part of sacrificing aspects of our old identity is recognizing what triggers our old identity or the outcomes of our old identity. Take some time to consider how this aspect of your old identity (principle, perspective, purpose, or priority) is demonstrated in your life.

What do you need to do to sacrifice this aspect of your old identity? Be as specific as possible.

How will this be demonstrated in our lives? As we live into our new identity, how will this change how we live?

We are transformed so we can reflect who God is.

Based on what you have learned, how would you complete the following sentence?

HE is the great I AM, so I can be...

How would you explain this to someone who asked?