

“I Am With You”

Message #1 in the series “Who Do You Say That I Am?”

John 1:1-18

“I AM” Versus “I AM NOT”

- Jesus is not a _____ of hope; He _____ hope.
- Jesus is not a _____ of a new doctrine, a new truth, or a new way of life; He _____ the Way, the Truth and the Life.
- Jesus is not an _____ of God sent to tell us about God; He _____ God – who came down to reveal Himself in tangible ways.
- Jesus is not an _____ of God sent to do God’s bidding; He is the _____ of God – who came down to reconcile us to Himself.
- Jesus is not a divine _____ who came to diagnose and fix our sinful condition; He is our _____ - who came to die in our place so that we would not bear on ourselves the judgment of our sinful, broken relationship with God.

THE APOSTLE JOHN’S “OVERTURE”

- Jesus is _____ and _____
- Jesus is Sovereign _____ and Incarnate _____

WHY JOHN THINKS THIS IS IMPORTANT FOR US

- You were worth _____
- Jesus is worth _____

John 1:1-18 (NRSV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

FOR GROW GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

1. In what ways has society made Jesus into something that was less than what He intended? In what ways have you, personally, done so?
2. How has the comparison of “I AM” versus “I AM NOT” impacted your understanding of who Jesus really is?
3. As you’ve listened to the message or as you read the Scripture passage, what is God bringing to your mind and heart? What do you want to do about it?