



10

Jesus Is the Great I AM

Key Theme

- God reveals His character in the Bible.

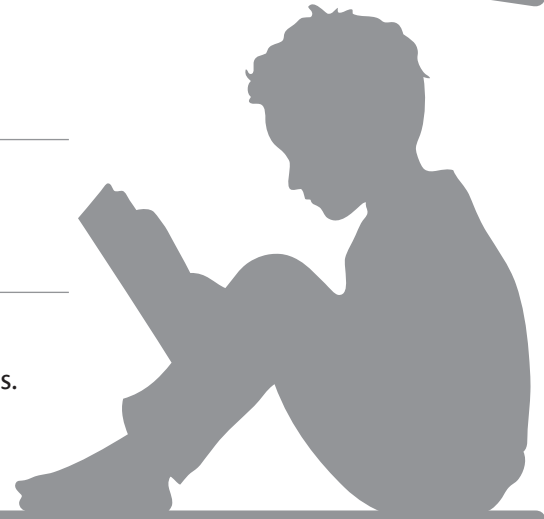
Key Passages

- Exodus 3:14; John 6:35, 8:12, 8:56–59, 10:9, 10:11, 11:25, 14:6

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Recognize that Jesus claimed to be God in the I AM statements.
- Identify the word pictures Jesus used to describe Himself.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

Students will practice the memory verse by completing the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, they will recite the verse to a partner or to the teacher.



Activity 1: Jesus Is the Great I AM Class Notes

Students will fill out the Jesus Is the Great I AM Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

Jesus revealed His identity as God when He proclaimed, "Before Abraham was, I AM." The Jewish leaders were astonished and upset because they knew Jesus was saying He was God. Jesus also described Himself with word pictures that made the claim "I AM"—I am the door; I am the way, the truth, and the life; and I am the good shepherd, to name a few. Jesus wanted people to know He was God.



Activity 2: Great I AM Game

Students will play a "Bingo" game to review the lesson material.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- ☐ Print one Memory Verse Review Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- ☐ Memory Verse Poster
- ☐ Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student
- ☐ Pencils



JESUS IS THE GREAT I AM CLASS NOTES

- ☐ Print one Jesus Is the Great I Am Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- ☐ Jesus Is the Great I Am Class Notes for each student
- ☐ Jesus Is the Great I Am Class Notes Answer Key
- ☐ Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- ☐ Study the Prepare to Share section.
- ☐ Go Before the Throne.
- ☐ Print one set of the Board Work Components. Keep the Lesson Board Work Guide for your use.
- ☐ Cut out the Board Work Illustrations and pass them out as directed in the lesson.

- ☐ Student Take Home Sheets
- ☐ Tape or poster putty
- ☐ Board Work Illustrations
- ☐ Lesson Board Work Guide



GREAT I AM GAME

- ☐ Print one set of the Great I Am Game Components from the Resource DVD-ROM. Keep the Teacher Guide for your use.
- ☐ Cut out the Game Cards. There are four different cards. Each student should get one.

- ☐ Great I Am Game Teacher Guide
- ☐ Great I Am Game Cards
- ☐ Dry beans or buttons to mark the game cards



MEMORY VERSE REVIEW GAME (OPTIONAL)

- ☐ Print, preferably onto cardstock, and cut out one copy of the Memory Verse Cards from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- ☐ Save the cards for use in future lessons.
- ☐ This is an optional activity to use in some or all of the lessons to review the memory verse if time allows.

- ☐ Memory Verse Cards printed on cardstock
- ☐ Tape or poster putty



Memory Verse

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."



Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages along with this background.

We spoke in Lesson 9 about Jesus's teaching. He often taught in parables using images and analogies that those with eyes to see and ears to hear would understand (Matthew 13:16). These parables often left people wondering what He was teaching. And Jesus often privately explained the meaning and the lesson of the parable to His disciples.

However, Jesus didn't always speak in parables. He was at times direct, as we will witness in today's study.

The scribes and Pharisees were offended at what Jesus was doing and saying—especially at His claim that He came from God and was sent by God (John 8:42). The Pharisees could not fathom His teaching that those who would keep the word of Jesus would never see death (John 8:51). They claimed He had a demon and questioned how He could say such a thing since even their father Abraham was dead. Was Jesus claiming to be greater than Abraham (John 8:53)? That could not be so. And yet, yes, Jesus was claiming to be greater than Abraham. And the words He spoke stunned those who were listening to Him, because they did not really hear. He answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM" (John 8:58).

This enraged those arguing with Him, and they picked up stones to throw at Him. They decided then and there He was deserving of death because of that claim. What exactly was the claim He was making? These scribes and Pharisees were well versed in the Old Testament. They considered themselves experts in the Word.

They were very familiar with God's words to Moses as he revealed Himself at the burning bush when God said, "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14). Of course, this is a name only the holy Creator God could have as it denotes complete independence and self-existence. In His self-existence, He is all-sufficient. He needs no one! It denotes eternity, one who always was and always will be. It could only describe the one true God. And this was Jesus's testimony—I AM God. And they hated Him even more.

Of course, Jesus would not be intimidated. And John recorded seven more instances where Jesus made the claim, "I AM," to confirm that He is God in human

form and the promised Messiah who would save His people from their sins. How did Jesus, the God-Man, describe Himself?

- "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35). He is essential to life—not just physical life, but eternal life.
- "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12). There is no other source of spiritual light or truth. He alone can explain all things.
- "I am the door of the sheep" (John 10:7). Salvation comes from no one else. Eternal life comes through Him alone—the only door.
- "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11; see Ezekiel 34). There is only one good shepherd—it is Jesus—who gave His life for His sheep. It is through Him alone that eternal life is gained. And through Him alone that we are guided, disciplined, comforted, and restored.
- "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). There is no resurrection or life without Jesus. He has conquered death forever. Trusting in this truth will bring comfort in the midst of the despair, sin, sickness, and evil of this present age.
- "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). Jesus again claimed Himself to be exclusive. He alone is the only way. He alone offers the only truth. And He alone promises eternal life with God the Father.
- "I am the true vine" (John 15:1, 15:5). As we grow, Jesus, as the true vine, will continue to provide us with the nourishment and sustenance we need to persevere. We must abide in the vine—Jesus—in order to bear fruit. And just like a branch cut off from the vine cannot continue to grow, we can do nothing without abiding in Jesus Christ (John 15:4–5).

Jesus is God. His claim to be "I AM" left no doubt in the minds of the unbelieving Jews. They accused Him of blasphemy, and the Bible records several times when the Jews attempted to stone Jesus because He made Himself equal with God (John 5:18, 8:59, 10:33). They did not succeed those times. But eventually God's perfect plan of redemption through Jesus would be fulfilled. And Christ would be crucified because of His rightful claim that He is the great I AM, God in human form, the King of the Jews (John 19:19).

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

The truth that Jesus is God in the flesh, the second Person of the Trinity, and fully divine is an explicit teaching of the New Testament. Jesus Himself claimed equality with God the Father many times (e.g., John 8). Paul spoke of Christ's deity frequently (e.g., Colossians 1–2). The writer of Hebrews wrote of Christ's deity (e.g., Hebrews 1–2). And this view has been the dominant, orthodox view of the Christian church since its inception. However, there have been challenges to this truth in the past as well as today.

Arius was a teacher in the early 4th century AD. Arius did not believe that Jesus was truly God in the flesh. Arius taught that Jesus was created by God as the first act of creation, so Jesus was a created being with divine attributes, but was not divine Himself. This view came to be called Arianism and his followers were Arians. The teachings of Arius had a significant impact on the early church, which resisted the heresy by creating many of the early creeds. These creeds defined the biblical, orthodox view of Jesus's nature.

Though Arius was labeled as a heretic, his ideas did not die out completely. In fact, there are modern-day groups, which like Arius, deny the full divinity of Jesus. One of these groups is the Jehovah's Witnesses. Founded in the mid-nineteenth century by Charles Taze Russell, this false religion claims several million adherents around the world. Like the ancient Arians, these modern-day Witnesses have demoted Jesus to something much less than He is.

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus was the first creation of God, thus denying His deity and eternal preexistence. They also teach that before His birth, Jesus was the archangel Michael. They claim that 2,000 years ago, God transferred the life of Jesus to Mary's womb. Though adherents to this false religion may seem sincere and persuasive, we must be on our guard against their teaching and point them to the biblical truth about Jesus.

Another group that denies the full deity of Jesus Christ is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), or Mormons. Mormonism teaches that Jesus

was first begotten as a spirit, the firstborn offspring of God the Father (Elohim) and one of His heavenly wives. According to Mormon beliefs, God the Father dwells on a planet with His many spirit wives, producing numerous spirit children who await to inhabit physical bodies. Jesus's incarnation is taught to be the result of sexual relations between the Heavenly Father (who has a physical body) and Mary. Again, despite the good image that Mormons may have in their communities and the zeal with which they seek converts, their beliefs are opposed to God's Word, and we must seek to share the truth with them.

Hundreds of years ago, after nearly a century of debate at early church councils, the Christian church officially denounced Arianism as a false doctrine. But it did not die out. It simply morphed and changed its name. But as we see in our lesson this week, the Bible is clear that Jesus is the great I AM. His full deity is proclaimed repeatedly in the New Testament. Jesus must be God in order to accomplish eternal salvation for sinners. The weak Jesus of the Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, and others (e.g., Islam) cannot offer forgiveness of sins and save sinners. When Jesus is believed to be a mere man, stripped of His deity, the atoning effect of His death is also stripped of any and all of its eternal significance.

For more information on this topic, see the Online Resource Page.



BEFORE THE THRONE

Jesus, Lord of all, you are the way, the truth, and the life. You are God. You are eternal; you are great; and yet you know me and my students by name. You rejoice when we study your Word. Omniscient God, glorify yourself through me, through this lesson, and in my students. May the awe of you, Jesus, the one true God, cause us to desire to follow you with all our hearts. You have come that we might have everlasting life. Satisfy our souls, for you are the living bread. Help us to see you with fresh eyes and hungry hearts.

► Because of the age and ability of 1st and 2nd graders to read and comprehend, we encourage you to read the Scriptures to the students. However, if you have strong readers, by all means have them participate by reading God's Word.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, have the students recite the verse together, to each other, or to you.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



Jesus Is the Great I AM Class Notes

MATERIALS

- ☐ Jesus Is the Great I AM Class Notes for each student
- ☐ Jesus Is the Great I AM Class Notes Answer Key
- ☐ Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Print the class notes for each student. Pass them out at the beginning of class. Have students fill in the blanks as you study the lesson.

We will be completing these class notes as we study the Bible passages. Do not work ahead. We'll finish them together.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we complete the class notes today, we will talk about what Jesus meant when He called Himself "I AM." We will also look at some word pictures Jesus used to describe Himself and what they meant.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

- ? Refer to Lesson 9 Lesson Theme Poster. Last week we talked about parables. What is a parable? A story about everyday things that teaches a lesson.
- ? Jesus taught many parables while He was on earth. Which one is shown on the Lesson Theme Poster? The parable of the sower and the seed.
- ? That's right. What was that parable about? Allow discussion using the Lesson Theme Poster for review.

➤ The class notes are designed and written simply. Please encourage and help your students to read them as the class progresses. They are an excellent means to review important lesson principles.

► Use the New Testament History Poster included with your teacher kit as you teach the lesson. Emphasize that Jesus ministered only 3 years, and He lived only about 35 years. Yet His life changed the world forever and brought eternal life to all who believe.

Exodus 3:14

► Re-read the verses or the portion of the verse(s) that answer the questions you are asking of the text.

The seed fell on four different soils. The soils stood for different hearts. These were the hearts of people who had heard the Word of God.

- ? **One soil was the wayside. What did the wayside stand for?** *Someone who hears, but does not listen.*
- ? **What did the stony ground stand for?** *Someone who receives the Word, but only for a while. He soon forgets it.*
- ? **What did the thorny ground stand for?** *Someone who hears the Word, but the world chokes it out.*
- ? **What did the good ground stand for?** *Someone who hears the Word, understands it, and bears fruit for God.*
- ? **Why did Jesus teach in parables?** *Allow discussion.*

Jesus knew that many people would not believe in Him. Only those who did believe in Him could understand the parables. The parables separated those who truly believed from those who didn't really care.

- ? **Who is Jesus?** *Jesus is God.*

Yes. Jesus is God. And while Jesus lived on earth, He told the scribes and Pharisees—the religious leaders and teachers of His day—who He was. We are going to talk a bit about that today.

I need to read a verse from the Old Testament first. It is Exodus 3:14. This verse tells us about God and Moses. This happened when God showed Himself to Moses at the burning bush. God had told Moses to go to the people of Israel and speak to them. Moses wasn't sure they would listen and asked God, "Who should I say is sending me?" This is God's answer to Moses. Listen to what God told him. *Read Exodus 3:14 enthusiastically, emphasizing "I AM."*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? **How did God answer Moses? What is God's name?** *Exodus 3:14. I AM who I AM.*
That's right. God said to tell them, "I AM has sent me to you."

- ? **What do you think God meant by that?** *Allow discussion.*

Discover the Truth

When God said, "I am that I AM," God was explaining that He is the only one, the eternal one—the one who was, who is, and who will always be. He was saying that He is the true God.

- ? **Take a look at #1 on your class notes. Will someone read that please? What is the answer?** *Assign a reader. God. Have students complete #1.*

- ? And what about #2? What did God call Himself? Will someone read that? *Assign a reader. I AM. Have students complete #2.*



READ THE WORD

Now, Moses lived a long time before Jesus was born. But this DOES have something to do with our lesson today—and with Jesus! Let's find out what!

We're going to read from the Gospel of John. Jesus was speaking to the religious leaders—the Pharisees—and to the Jews. Jesus had told them that He and the Father (God) are one. But these people did not want to believe Him. They did not believe that Jesus is God!

What Jesus said really surprised them. He said something about Abraham! Now Abraham lived 2,000 years before Jesus. Listen to what Jesus said to them as He tried to explain that what He said WAS true. *Read John 8:56–57.*

John 8:56–57

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? Who did Jesus say rejoiced to see His day? *Re-read John 8:56. Abraham.*

That's right. Jesus told the Jews that Abraham had seen His day. But how was that possible? Abraham lived about 2,000 years before Jesus.

- ? How did the Jews respond? What did they say? *Re-read John 8:57. You're not even 50 years old, but you say you've seen Abraham?*

The Jews knew how old Jesus was. They were looking right at Him. He was only about 30 years old. How could Jesus have seen Abraham, who lived thousands of years before? Well, that is a very good question. Jesus's statement doesn't make sense—for anyone but Jesus. But Jesus is God, and Jesus is eternal—right?

And of course, Jesus had an answer for them. Listen as I read what Jesus said to them. And we will answer a couple questions about it. Listen carefully! *Read John 8:58–59.*

John 8:58–59

- ? What did Jesus say about Himself? *Re-read John 8:58. Before Abraham was, I AM.*

- ? Jesus said He was "I AM." Who else called Himself "I AM"? Remember what we read in Exodus 3:14? Look at #2 on your class notes for a hint. *Exodus 3:14. God.*

Jesus used the same name that God used when He told Moses who He was. God called Himself "I AM." Jesus called Himself "I AM." Jesus was saying He is God.

- ? The Jews did not like this one bit. What did they do? *Re-read John 8:59 if necessary. They took up stones to throw at Him.*

Discover the Truth

? Let's go back to our class notes. Someone read #3 for us. God said He was the great I AM. Who else used that name? What is the answer to #3? *Assign a reader. Jesus. Have students complete #3.*

? And how about #4? What is the answer there? *Assign a reader. Kill. Have students complete #4.*

God told Moses, "Tell them I AM sent you." And Jesus told the Jews, "Before Abraham was, I AM." Jesus wanted the people to know that He was the great I AM. He was fully God, and He was fully man. The Jews did not like this! They wanted to kill Jesus because He said He was God.



READ THE WORD

Jesus knew who He was, and He would not back down even though many wanted to kill Him. In fact, there were several other times Jesus described Himself saying "I AM." Let's take a look at some of those and see what Jesus meant by them. I have six pictures here. Each one goes with a verse I will be reading. I'll pass them out. And when we get to the verse that describes your picture, bring it up and put it on the board. I'll put the first picture up.

This is our memory verse. Can someone read this for me? *Assign a reader. Jesus said I AM the way, the truth, and the life. Attach Board Work Illustration #1 to the center of the board according to the Lesson Board Work Guide. Pass out the remaining Board Work Illustrations to students.*

John 6:35

I'll be reading several statements Jesus made about Himself. The first one is from John 6:35. Listen while I read. *Read John 6:35 emphasizing "bread of life."*

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

? What does Jesus call Himself in this verse? *The bread of life.*

? That's right. Now who has picture #2 for the board? Will you bring that up and put it on the board, please? *Have student attach Board Work Illustration #2 to the board according to the Lesson Board Work Guide.*

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." Of course, He didn't mean He was the kind of bread we eat. He was talking about living "bread." Just like we need food for our bodies to live, we need Jesus for eternal life. He is the only way to heaven. We can't get there without Him.

John 8:12

OK. Now I'm going to read John 8:12. Again, Jesus describes Himself here. *Read John 8:12 emphasizing "light of the world."*

? What does Jesus call Himself in this verse? *The light of the world.*

? Who has that picture—#3? Bring it up for us. *Have student attach Board Work Illustration #3 to the board.*

? What do you think Jesus meant when He said He was the light of the world? *Allow discussion.*

Jesus is not a light, of course. But He does light our way with the truth of His Word. He guides us and our life. And the Bible says if we follow Him we will not walk in darkness, but we will have the light of life. That life is *eternal* life. Jesus is the only light that can lead us to eternal life.

I have another one! This is in John 10:9. Listen carefully! *Read John 10:9 emphasizing “the door.”*

John 10:9

? What does Jesus call Himself in this verse? *The door.*

? Who has picture #4? Bring it up for us. *Have student attach Board Work Illustration #4 to the board.*

? That’s interesting. Jesus said, “I am the door.” What do you think He meant? *Allow discussion.*

Again, we know Jesus is not a door! Jesus was saying that eternal life and salvation come only through Him. He is the door. Sinners must walk through that door—Jesus Christ—to find forgiveness of their sins and to be saved.

Jesus described Himself in many ways, always beginning with, “I AM.” Listen to John 10:11. Listen for what Jesus says about Himself. *Read John 10:11 emphasizing “good shepherd.”*

John 10:11

? What did Jesus call Himself in this verse? *The good shepherd.*

? What does the good shepherd give for His sheep? *His life.*

? Who has picture #5? *Have student attach Board Work Illustration #5 to the board.*

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd.” There is only one good shepherd. Jesus is it. He’s the only one who can guide and lead His sheep—His followers. He promises to protect, comfort, teach, and love His sheep. He gave His life for His sheep. And He offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who will believe and trust in Him.

I have one more. It is in John 11:25. Listen carefully; this one might be a little harder. *Read John 11:25 emphasizing “the resurrection and the life.”*

John 11:25

? What does Jesus call Himself in this verse? *The resurrection and the life.*

? Who has picture #6? Bring that up for us. *Have student attach Board Work Illustration #6 to the board.*

? What is this a picture of? *The empty tomb.*

? Who rose from the tomb? *Jesus.*

John 14:6

That's right! Jesus rose from that tomb. And when He did, He showed that He had power over death! He promised His believers that He is the resurrection and the life. And His followers will have eternal life with Him forever in heaven!

Refer to the Memory Verse Poster and picture #1 on the board. John 14:6 is our last verse. You should all know this one. It is our memory verse! Let's say it together. Recite John 14:6 together.

? What does Jesus call Himself in this verse? *The way, the truth, and the life.*

? What does this verse mean? *Allow discussion.*

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way, no other truth, and no other life but through Jesus Christ. And no one can come to the Father in heaven except through Jesus Christ, the Savior.

? OK. That was fun! Let's review one more time and finish our class notes. Look at #5. Who will read that for us? How will you finish it? *Assign a reader. Breathe. Have students complete #5 on the class notes.*

? Yes. And who will read #6 for us. How will you answer it? *Assign a reader. Light. Have students complete #6 on the class notes.*

? How about #7? Who will read it and give us the answer? *Assign a reader. Door. Have students complete #7 on the class notes.*

? And #8. What does that one say about Jesus? *Assign a reader. Good. Have students complete #8 on the class notes.*

? Good job! What about #9? Someone read that for us and help us with the answer. *Assign a reader. Life. Have students complete #9 on the class notes.*

? And the last one, #10. Who will read that? How will you answer it? *Assign a reader. Truth. Have students complete #10 on the class notes.*

Discover the Truth

► If time allows, do a quick review of each point on the class notes.

Jesus wanted to make it clear. He is God. He is the great I AM. And there is no other way to heaven and eternal life with God except through Jesus. Many Jews hated Him because He said these things. They wanted to kill Him. And several times they tried. We know they finally did kill Jesus when He died on the Cross. But Jesus did not die before it was His time to die—according to God's perfect plan.





Great I AM Game

MATERIALS

- ☐ The Great I Am Game Teacher Guide
- ☐ The Great I Am Game Cards
- ☐ Dry beans or buttons to mark the answers

INSTRUCTIONS

Pass out one Great I Am Game Card and give beans to each student. Be sure to use all four variations of the cards to mix it up among the students. Ask the questions from the teacher guide. Students will answer the questions and put a bean on ONE block with the correct answer on their card. Once beans are on the card they cannot be moved to another block! When someone fills in a row on his card, he should say, "Jesus is the great I AM!" Keep track of the questions and answers you ask to check the winners. Students can trade cards and repeat the game as time allows.

We are going to play a game a little like "Bingo." This game will be a fun review of what we've talked about today. Use the board work and your class notes to help you answer the questions.

You can only put one bean down at a time even if the answer is on your card more than once. And you can't change where the beans are. You have to leave the beans where you put them until the game is over. When you get a whole row of beans, shout, "Jesus is the great I AM." Here we go! *Play the game.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Jesus told the people that He was God when He said, "I AM." He wanted all of us to know who He was. When He said I AM the light of the world; I AM the good shepherd; I AM the bread of life; I AM the way, the truth, and the life, we know He was saying He is the great I AM! He is the one true God.





Memory Verse Review (Optional)

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

If you find you have extra time, please consider reviewing the memory verse with your class.

MATERIALS

- ☐ Memory Verse Poster
- ☐ Memory Verse Cards printed on cardstock
- ☐ Tape or poster putty

INSTRUCTIONS

Print, preferably onto cardstock, and cut out one copy of the Memory Verse Cards. Tape the cards in order on the wall or board as you recite the verse together. Review the verse as you point to each card. Choose a student to remove one card of his choice. Recite the verse again. You can use these cards for Lessons 7–12.

We’re going to practice our memory verse. Let’s say the verse together as I place these cards onto the board. *Show each card as you read it, post it on the board, and have the students repeat.*

Good job! But wait! I’m going to ask one of you to come up and take one of the cards

down. Then we’ll say the verse without that card! Are you ready? *Continue to choose students to remove cards one at time, reciting the whole verse between each one.*

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

- ? Who is our memory verse talking about?
Jesus.
- ? Jesus said He is three things. What are those three things? *The way, the truth, and the life.*
- ? Who must we believe in to have eternal life?
Jesus.
- ? Who do we have to believe in to come to God the Father? *Jesus.*

Good job! Jesus is the only way to the Father. He promises eternal life to those who believe in Him and know Him as their Savior. Jesus is the truth; we can trust everything He says—we can believe Him! Jesus is the life; He rose from the dead, and He can give eternal life with Him in heaven to all who believe and trust in Him.



Applying God’s Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Refer to Lesson 10 Lesson Theme Poster. Jesus astonished and even angered the religious leaders of His day when He said, “Before Abraham was, I AM.” They knew that “I AM” was the name God called Himself when He was speaking to Moses. We read about that in the book of Exodus. The Pharisees thought Jesus was dishonoring God by saying He was God. But we know that Jesus is God, and He was letting everyone know it when He called Himself “I AM.”

Jesus also said “I AM” when He described Himself at other times. We looked at six different times when Jesus spoke about Himself with a word picture that started with “I AM.” Let’s read them all from your class notes.

Read #5–10 on your class notes or refer to the board work.

Some people hated Him for telling the truth about who He was. Many of the Jews wanted to kill Him. They didn’t believe that He was the Messiah or God in the flesh.

GOD’S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

Jesus is God. There is no question about it. He is the only way to salvation. But some people want to say that Jesus was not God. Some religions say Jesus was a good person created by God and that He was like God, but not God. Others say Jesus was a wise prophet, but not God. Don’t be fooled by those who say Jesus was only a man! You’ve heard what the Bible says. Jesus wanted everyone to know that He was God in human flesh who came to save sinners. And all who believe this truth, repent of their sins, turn to Jesus, and trust Him for forgiveness will go to heaven and have eternal life with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit!



➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the children to practice the memory verse this week.



MEMORY VERSE

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise Jesus because He is God who came to earth as a man to provide a way for us to have eternal life.
- Ask God to help us to believe what Jesus said and to trust Him as Lord of our lives.
- Ask God to give us the courage to tell others that Jesus is God and that the only way to eternal life is through Him.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.