

JESUS IS THE DOOR

YEAR: TRANSFORM / FOCUS: LIVING FOR JESUS / SERIES: GOD IS I AM

BIG TRUTH: JESUS IS THE DOOR

John 14:6; Matthew 7:13-14; Luke 13:24

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 10:9

"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

BIG IDEAS

- Jesus is the only way to God.
- Jesus is the only way to saving peace.
- Jesus is the only way to abundant life.

BIBLE PASSAGE: JOHN 10:1-10

TRANSFORM: LIVING FOR JESUS

In High School, the Transform Year is an exploration of what it looks like to have transformed influence as we seek to live for a Kingdom that is greater than our own. First, we recognize that we will never be transformed if we are not Living for Jesus. To do this, we must first know who Jesus is by looking at who He says He is (John 8:58), and then look at what the Bible says about how in Him, we live by faith (James 1:6). Next, we recognize that to have transformed influence means that we must live as disciples in pursuit of Christ and His Kingdom over ourselves and our own kingdoms.

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- The 8 different "I AM" statements that Jesus uses in the gospel of John.
- We will always be dissatisfied when we search for joy and life apart from Jesus.
- The value and worth of our lives is found in Jesus alone



Every student should feel...

- Awe that God would make a way for our relationship with Him through Jesus.
- Convicted of the lies that they are tempted to believe about Jesus.
- Responsible to use their influence for Jesus alone.



Every student should strive to...

- Read the entire gospel of John.
- Memorize the Bible verse each week.
- Practice sharing the truth about who Jesus is using the 'I Am' statements from Scripture



Every student should want to...

- Grow in their understanding of who Jesus is.
- Abide in Christ deeper than they ever have before.
- Be known for how they point people to Jesus with their lives

GUIDES AND WORKOUTS

The Guide provides a commentary page on each week's Bible verse and on each Big Idea that unpacks the Big Truth. Each week also includes a Student Workout as a resource to help the student pursue spiritual disciplines on their own. Additionally, each week has a Family Workout that helps equip parents and guardians to have spiritual conversations with their student.



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JESUS IS THE DOOR

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 10:9

"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

Believers have access to the Father through Jesus.

"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, He will be saved..."

- All of Jesus' "I AM" statements are statements about Himself. By revealing truth about Himself, He points man to God and the salvation offered to anyone who believes. In this particular verse, Jesus compares Himself to a door. Doors are the ways in which we gain access to places.
- By calling Himself the door, Jesus is proclaiming that He is our access to the Father. Having access to the Father means we have eternal life. It means that the separation caused by our sin can be removed and we can enjoy a right relationship with God. It is through Jesus that we can gain this access.

Believers access salvation through Jesus alone.

"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out..."

- Our sin separates us from God. In order to be reconciled to Him again, we need our sin forgiven. We owe Him a sin debt, yet we cannot pay this sin debt. God made a way for our sin debt to be forgiven by sending Jesus. Jesus is the way we can access the salvation offered to us by the Father.
- When we repent of our sin and turn to Jesus, we can access the salvation that God the Father offers us. We cannot bypass Jesus in order to be saved. If we want salvation, we must go through Jesus in order to have it. This means we must believe that He is the Savior and that we are in need of the salvation that He offers.

Believers experience new life through Jesus.

"I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."

- As the door that gives us access to the Father, Jesus also gives us access to new life. When we have saving faith in Jesus, we will experience new life. We become new creations because Jesus makes us new. We are set free from our sin debt. Our hearts are made new and we are no longer enslaved to our sin nature.
- Instead, we receive eternal life and are made spiritually alive. We have new desires and live for God because we walk in the light. We no longer live in the darkness. This new life is only possibly through Jesus.

BIG IDEA #1: JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD.¹**[THIS]**

There aren't many things in life that are accomplished or accessed in one way. We like options and different ways of accomplishing things. We even like to try different ways of describing our world and explaining our purpose. In John 10:1, Jesus addresses the many others ways we try to accomplish access to God. He says that only those who enter through Him, which means those who enter by having saving faith in Him, will truly gain access to the Father. When Jesus calls Himself the door, He is saying that there is one way to God and He is the one way. Just as some rooms can only be accessed through one door, we are reconciled to God in one way and one way alone. We cannot alter this way or try to go around it. It's impossible. Jesus' "I AM" statement in John 10:9 is absolute and is true for any person who desires to know God.

[THEREFORE]

Read John 10:7-9. How can Jesus' statements in these verses be controversial to people today?

People struggle to accept that there is absolute truth. They do not like to be limited. Instead, they want to follow their own path and think they know what is best. Proverbs 19:21 tells us that man makes many plans in his heart, but it is God's purposes that happen. We all like our own ideas and plans and reject God's way.

[THIS]

In John 10:8, Jesus says that all who claim to be a way to God are actually thieves and robbers. These people are those who claim to know a way to God, but bypass Jesus. When a person professes a belief in God, but denies Jesus is who He says He is, they are actually creating their own belief system. Jesus calls these people thieves and robbers because they are not leading people to God, but away from Him. When we attempt to change things about God by only accepting the parts of His Word that we are comfortable with or adding things that make us feel better, we are creating our own version of God. This makes us robbers of God's truth. We will not truly know God if we do this. The only way we can know God is if we know Jesus. Only when we submit to Jesus as our Savior can we really know Jesus and have access to the Father.

[THEREFORE]

What are some examples of other ways people define God that are contrary to God's definition of Himself?

God is defined in many different ways. He's seen as a force, idea, or inner power. To some people, He's even seen as always changing, as something or someone who morphs to fit whatever is the popular opinion. Any definition other than what God's Word says is contrary to His own definition of Himself. Exodus 3:14 teaches us this truth.

Redefining God robs Him of His glory and leads people away from Him. How have you been guilty of robbing God?

In John 10:1-2, we see that those who try to enter heaven any way other than through Jesus is a thief. When we redefine God and try to redefine the path of salvation, we are thieves and robbers. When we lead people astray we are thieves and leading people to their eternal deaths. Jesus warns of this in these verses. How we view God and live our lives for Him matters in this life. Who we say God is matters because people around us are watching and listening.

1. Acts 4:12: Jesus is the only way for a person to be saved. There is no other way for a person to experience salvation.

BIG IDEA #2: JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVING PEACE.²**[THIS]**

When we are born, we are born separated from God by our sin. Our sin nature leads us to reject God and we live as an adversary of God. We also live under God's judgment as His enemy. We are at war with Him because we fight against Him. Even though we may not recognize this turmoil as a battle against God's design, we all fight against it. We feel inner turmoil, strife, pain, and struggle. Our lives are spent doing things that are contrary to His Word. We create our own definitions for already defined things. Things that God has deemed good, we call bad. Things that He has called evil, we call good. Because of the brokenness in the world, we experience disease and sickness. Our relationships are not easy, but difficult. We face sibling rivalries and feel competitive in our pursuit of any goal in life. Unity is challenging, even within our local church. Peace is not possible without Jesus. We can try and try, but we will always fail to achieve true peace unless we have Jesus.

[THEREFORE]

What are some times that you have felt anxiety and turmoil because you've rejected some aspect of God's truth?

In John 14:27, Jesus makes a distinction between the peace of the world and His peace. The world's peace is not lasting. When we turn away from God's truth and His way, we turn away from true peace and this leads to anxiety and turmoil in our lives. When we reject God, we will be like Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, naked and afraid.

[THIS]

In John 10:1-10, Jesus promises a different life for those who believe Him. When we enter through the door that is Jesus, we enter into a life of peace. We are no longer God's enemies. We are no longer in turmoil. Because of His death on the cross for us, we are no longer under God's judgment. We are no longer held accountable for the sin debt that we owe God. This is good news to us! This means instead of being God's foe, we are His friend. We are His son or daughter. God sets us free to know Him and live for Him. This brings peace to our lives. It also means that our hearts no longer struggle against God. We don't look at Him and His truth and struggle against it. We see it as right and true. We finally understand that His way is the right way and we are peace within and with Him. His saving peace means we are His children, and we hear His voice and recognize Him as the Good Shepherd. We follow Him and are led to safety.

[THEREFORE]

Describe the peace that salvation gives. How is it different than the peace the world gives?

From James 4:1 we can discern that the peace of the world is a peace that doesn't last. If peace has to originate from within us, then it will not be a true peace. Peace that comes from salvation is a lasting peace because it comes from God who makes us new. Titus 3:5, 2 Corinthians 5:17, and Ephesians 2:10 teach us that when we are saved, we are made new. Only this type of peace can last because it doesn't depend upon our sinful hearts.

What are some other ways we try to have saving peace?

There are so many things in this world that we try to use to save ourselves. Money, success, friendships, our own good works, but they all fail and leave us empty. Only Jesus can give lasting saving peace.

2. John 14:27: Knowing Jesus as our Savior gives us eternal peace. Because we are forgiven of our sin debt, we are no longer at war with God. We have peace.

BIG IDEA #3: JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO ABUNDANT LIFE.³**[THIS]**

God's Word is full of His promises about what our lives will be and can be when we follow Him. Often, we get off track because we define certain words according to the world's standards instead of really seeking to understand what God is saying in His Word. In John 10:10, Jesus promises that He came to give abundant life. If we define abundant life through a secular, or worldly lens, we may define it to mean material wealth, success, or something other than what God means. We would then find our lives lacking abundance and we would see God as a liar. We could look at believers in countries where starvation and disease are rampant and think God has forgotten them. The abundant life we receive from God can only be defined through the lens of God's Word and how He intends it.

[THEREFORE]

Why is it important to look at all of God's Word through the right lens?

Psalm 119:18 teaches us to ask for a right view of Scripture. We do not naturally have a right view of things. We need God's help to understand His Word. 2 Timothy 3:15-17 shows us the importance of studying Scripture and handling it in the right way. If we look at it in the wrong way, we will miss what God is saying to us.

[THIS]

When we really examine what Jesus meant in John 10:10, we see that every believer truly does have abundant life. Because only Jesus can give abundant life, only those who know Him really have it. Other people in this world can have lots of money, material things, even worldly success and lack abundant life if they don't know Jesus. Jesus gives limitless joy in any circumstance, peace that passes all understanding, grace for every trial, and His continual presence in our hearts. He chooses to use His people for our glory to fulfill His purposes on earth. This gives every person purpose no matter their circumstances purpose. They can face plenty and lack much in this life, but still have an abundant life when they know Jesus because they know the Savior of the world and that is everything.

[THEREFORE]

How does our self-reliance and love of this world blind us to the true abundant life Jesus gives?

We like to be self-sufficient and depend upon ourselves. This blinds us to the true abundant life that Jesus gives. 1 John 2:15-16 shows us that we also love the things of this world and that blinds us to the life that we can truly have in knowing Jesus.

How has Jesus given you abundant life? How is your life different?

2 Corinthians 3:18 and 5:17 shows us that we become completely new creations when we know Jesus. This means that our sinful hearts are made new and we are set free to live for Him. No longer are we blind to His truth. Matthew 5:16 shows us that we are to live in this abundant life as lights in the world. People should be able to look at our lives and see that we are different. They should notice that something is different about us than those who do not know Jesus.

3. John 10:10: When we have saving faith in Jesus, we have abundant life in Him.