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# Encounter(ing) God

Jesus  
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Part 5  
May 26, 2019

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## Review

*For the past several weeks, we have been going through the “I AM” statements of Jesus — unpacking His astonishing claims. They are either true or not true — no middle ground. But, because they ARE true, we who believe, get to encounter Him in amazing ways.*

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## The I AM Statements of Jesus

...what Jesus said about Himself

The eight *I AM* statements of Jesus are:

- **I AM** — Self-Existentent, Self-Sufficient, All-Powerful, All-Knowing, Ever-Present, God in human flesh who has come to invite you into glorious relationship/friendship.
  - **I am** the Bread of Life — when partaken of gives eternal life!
  - **I am** the Light of the World — won't walk in darkness, light of life!
  - **I am** the Door — only unique access — only opening for salvation
  - **I am the Good Shepherd**
  - **I am** the Resurrection and the Life
  - **I am** the Way, the Truth, the Life
  - **I am** the Vine
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## I Am the Good Shepherd

— *Intimacy* — “*Into-Me-You-See*”

**John 10:1-4, 11-16**

- Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice... “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.”

**Five ways we Encounter Jesus as Our Good Shepherd**

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## 1. He calls us by name (verse 3)

- **Zacchaeus** – **Luke 19**, He calls Zacchaeus, goes to his house, eats, he is a “sinner”
- **Mary** – it wasn’t until He said her name that she recognized Him
- **Peter** – Jesus changed his name from Simon bar Jonah to Peter, Rock! Jesus saw his potential
- **Revelation 2:17** – in eternity we will each receive a new name given to us on a white stone – known only to us individually, and to Him alone – intimacy!

**Question** – *He calls you by name – have you answered?*

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## 2. He owns us (verse 3)

- He isn’t ashamed to call us His own. **Hebrews 2:11** *not ashamed to call us brethren*

**Question** – *How did He come to own us? What did He purchase us with? What was the cost?*

- **1 Peter 1:18-19**  
knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

**Application** – The Good Shepherd was also the Lamb of God who purchased us with His own blood! He gave and laid down His life – so we could have life. He cares and defends, He’s no hireling! He doesn’t disown and run when the wolves come to destroy.

- **Ephesians 1:18**  
... that you may know what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints

**Question** – *Have you allowed Jesus to purchase you out of sin’s slavery? Does He own you? Do you understand that He wants you to be His glorious inheritance?*

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## 3. He knows us (verse 14)

- inside and out – motives to actions – weaknesses and strengths – everything!
- HE STILL LOVES US!
- This should deliver us from hiding and pretending – *to communing and confessing*.
- Since the Garden of Eden God has been calling humanity by name, to come out from our hiding, to remove our fig leaf coverings. He already knows! Let’s talk!
- Saul of Tarsus encountered Jesus on the road to “De-Mask-Us.” Jesus has been wanting to de-mask religious, pretending, actors for 2,000 years.

**Question** – *Are you hiding and pretending – or communing and confessing?*

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#### 4. He leads us, goes before us (verse 4)

- doesn't stand behind us and push — drive us into ground
- doesn't go way ahead of us and scream at us to catch up
- goes before us and leads us

**Question — Are you following where He is leading? He said His sheep would hear and follow.**

**Question — IS THERE MORE GOODNESS THAT COMES FROM FOLLOWING HIS LEAD?**

**Answer — YES!!!**

**That goodness is seen in the most famous of all shepherd passages in the entire Bible —  
Psalm 23.**

**a) Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**b) The LORD — I AM- Self-Existent, Self-Sufficient,  
All-Powerful, All-Knowing, Ever-Present, God in human flesh.**

**c) He's MY shepherd — I own Him as my own,  
I am not ashamed or embarrassed of Him in any way, in front of anyone.**

**Song of Solomon 6:3 I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine. INTIMACY!**

**Therefore — I shall not want, I lack nothing, I have all because I have Him.**

**I'm looking no further, my search is over, my hunger has ceased,  
my thirst is quenched by the goodness of My Shepherd.**

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#### 5. He satisfies us

**...calls, owns, knows, leads, satisfies**

**Encounter Him in these areas, He came for that**

- **Sinners** — hear Him calling you by name, say yes to His invitation to life!
- **Saints** — He owns you, believe and enjoy the glorious inheritance He has in you!
- **Saints** — He knows you and loves you anyway — commune, confess, transform.
- **Saints** — follow His lead — it guides you to His goodness.
- **Saints** — let Him satisfy you.

***More goodness next week!***

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## Discussion Questions

1. Jesus calls you by name, have you answered?
2. Read Revelation 2:17. Take a minute a ponder on the fact that you will be given an individual name known only between you and the Lamb of God.
3. Do you understand that He wants you to be His glorious inheritance? How does that make you feel?
4. If Jesus is not ashamed to call us his brethren, then how can we be ashamed to acknowledge Him?
5. Since He KNOWS ALL of you, and still loves you — are you still hiding and pretending, or are you confessing and communing?

# NOTES