

GRADES
K-6

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

Printable Lesson Kit

M **GHTY MESSAGES**

THANK YOU

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"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

LESSON OVERVIEW

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST MIGHTY MESSAGE

This lesson on the I AM statements of Jesus will help children understand that Jesus was a lot more than a great prophet and kind healer. Jesus doesn't tell people that he knows the way to the door or that he can provide the bread of life. He said he IS those things. There are seven I AM statements Jesus made about himself, all in the Book of John. This lesson will help children see that no one could truthfully make such statements without being Lord of all.

How to Use the Lesson Kit:

This kit includes a variety of activities that you can select from to customize your perfect lesson. We suggest beginning with the Scripture Reading & Lesson followed by the Discussion Questions. From there, feel free to mix & match the activities to build your lesson plan based on the time you have allotted and the age level/interests of your kids.



WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Scripture Reading & Lesson
- Discussion Questions
- Printable Craft
- Game
- Coloring Page
- Wordsearch
- Crossword Puzzle
- Learning Lookups Journaling
- Parent Handout
- Quiz
- Reference Sheet
- Certificate of Completion
- Answer Page



MATERIALS LIST :

- Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- Hole punch
- Book Ring or string (for flipbook craft)
- Scissors
- Game Cards (game, follows instructions)
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (electronic or hardcopy)

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

SCRIPTURE & LESSON

EXCERPTS FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN (NIV)

Read the following excerpts as shown (NIV translation), or read from your chosen Bible translation:



THE SEVEN "I AM" STATEMENTS OF JESUS

- 1.** ...I AM the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. (John 6:35)
- 2.** ...I AM the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. (John 8:12)
- 3.** ...I AM the gate. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. (John 10:9)
- 4.** ...I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (John 10:11)
- 5.** ...I AM resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; (John 11:25)
- 6.** ...I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)
- 7.** ...I AM the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. (John 15:1-2)

Questions for Children about the “I Am” Statements

1. Jesus doesn't just say he HAS bread or he CAN SHOW THE WAY to the door. He says he IS these things. Why does he say it like that? ***It sounds more important and is more important. Because he is our salvation, our savior. Our salvation is in a relationship with a real person, not with a list of rules.***
2. In saying I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, Jesus is comparing himself to light. What is good about light? ***It brings joy; it shows the way; it prevents us from stumbling around.*** Have you ever had a problem resolve because of Jesus' teachings or his presence to guide your heart? If so, what happened?
3. Jesus says he is the GOOD SHEPHERD. Who are the sheep? ***His followers.*** What are some things a good shepherd would do? ***Protect the sheep from wolves and other wild animals, feed them, give them water.*** Have you ever felt Jesus was protecting you? What happened?



TEACHER'S MIGHTY MESSAGE

Other religious leaders said, “I can open a door between you and God.”

Jesus said, “I AM the door.”

Other religious leaders said, “I can show you the way to God.”

Jesus said, “I AM the way.”

Other religious leaders said, “You all are like sheep. I can take you to a shepherd.”

Jesus said, “I AM the good shepherd.”

Jesus' claims about himself were bigger and bolder than any other religious leader's in history. He performed many miracles to prove he was telling the truth about his relationship with God the Father. Other religious leaders have told great stories about who they were, but guess what?

They couldn't back it up with a single miracle. Ever. In history. Ever.

You can visit the graves of most any religious leaders in recent history. Religious leaders who lived a long time ago, their graves are often lost. But what's the difference between them all and Jesus? Jesus came back from the dead.

Jesus came back, and he was seen by over 500 people between his death in Jerusalem and his ascension 40 days later. Today, he lives in heaven.

When we try Christianity, we find we do not have a religion based on following rules. We don't have one based on strange imaginings. We have a religion based on a person, one who loves us and wants to fellowship with us. That's what the seven I AM statements of Jesus are all about.



"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

PRINTABLE FLIPBOOK

1

Print these pages onto white cardstock or paper.



2

Cut into individual pages. You will have 1 cover page, and 7 "I am" statement pages.



3

Punch holes where indicated, put in order, and connect with a book ring or string.



Suggested Uses:

- 1) Create the flip books as a craft during your lesson. Have the kids cut out each page, punch holes, and tie up their mini-book as a study guide to use throughout the week.
- 2) Encourage kids to explain the statement of Christ in their own words on the back of each page.
- 3) Challenge the kids to study the flip book by a certain date and then have a contest to see who has memorized all seven statements!

1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST



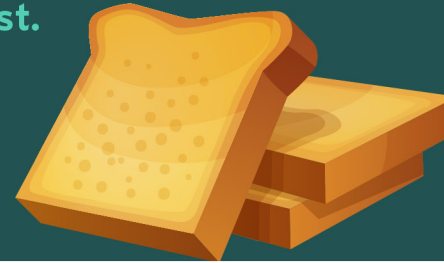
1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

1

John 6:35

I am the bread
of life;

...whoever comes to me shall not
hunger, and whoever believes in me
shall never thirst.



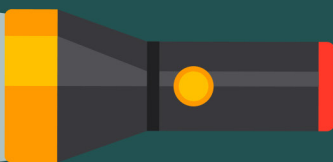
1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

2

John 8:12

I am the light
of the world.

Whoever follows me will not walk in
darkness, but will have the light of
life.



1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

3

John 10:7-8

I am the door
of the sheep.

All who came
before me are
thieves and
robbers, but the
sheep did not
listen to them.



1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

4

John 10:11

I am the good shepherd.

The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.



1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

5

John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life.

Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live...



1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

b

John 14:6

I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.



1 "I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

7

John 15:1-2

I am the true vine,

and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.



Jesus
answered,

I AM

the

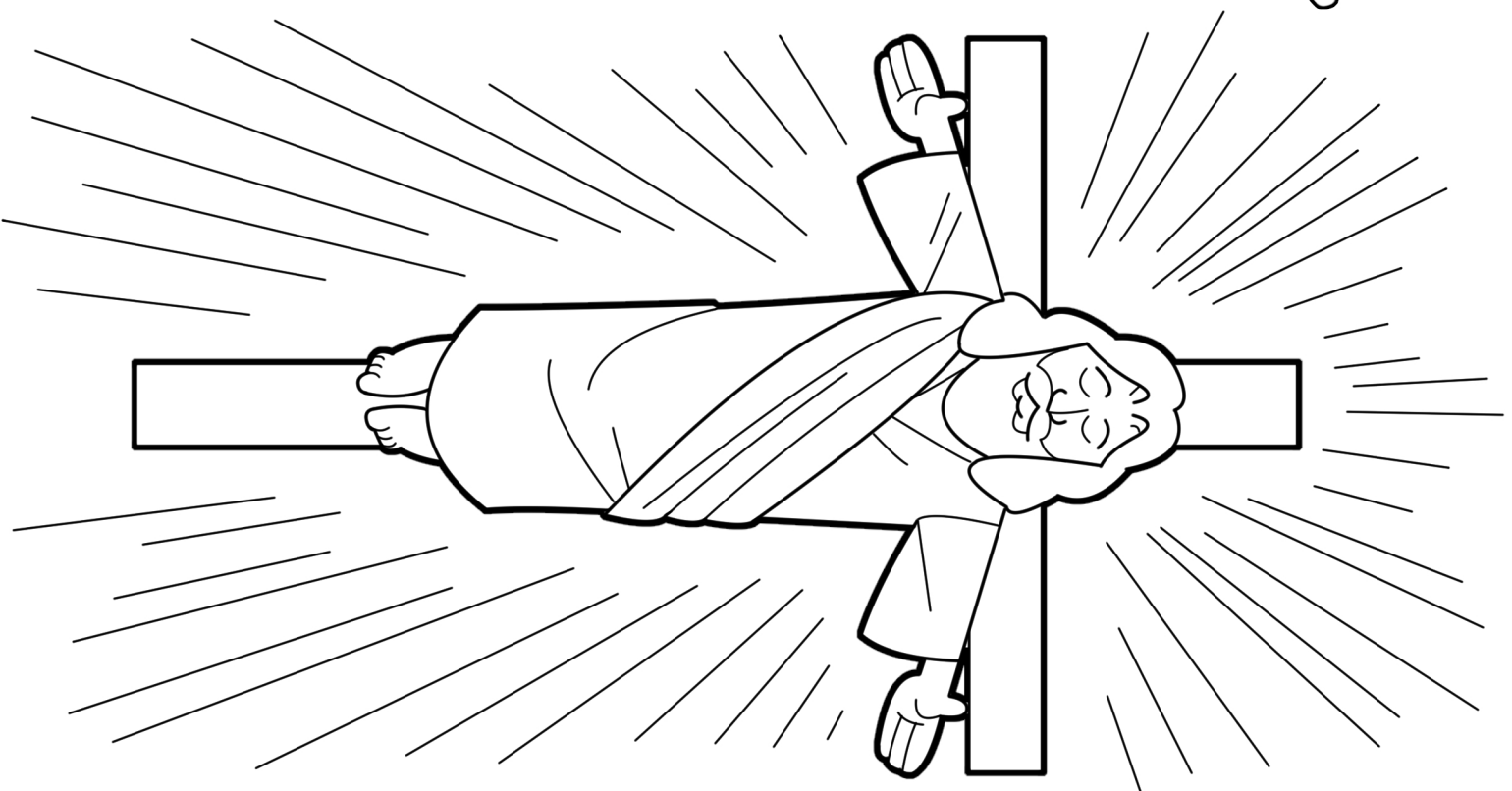
Way

and
the

TRUTH

and
the

LIFE.



NO ONE

comes to

the

FATHER

EXCEPT

through

ME.

-John

14:6

I AM STATEMENTS MATCHING GAME

Each I AM statement contains two parts: The I AM statement and an explanatory statement. The explanatory statement helps make the I AM statement more clear.

OBJECTIVE

Be the first team to guess correctly which explanatory statements go with the appropriate I AM statements.



MATERIALS:

Game cards (follows the instructions)

PREPARATION

Print out enough copies so that you have one for each pair of students



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Divide class into pairs.
2. Give each pair a set of the 14 printout cards, shuffled
3. Explain that the cards contain the seven I AM statements of Christ. There are 14 cards because each I AM statement has a beginning part, which is the I AM statement itself, and each has an explanatory part, which helps shed more light on the I AM statement.
4. First, ask them to find the seven I AM statements and lay them out in front of themselves and their teammate.
5. Second, ask them to use logic to decide which ending goes with which beginning.
6. The first team to get all the correct endings with the correct beginnings wins.

Game Cards: Cut out the game cards and shuffle them altogether.

JOHN 6:35
I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE;

WHOEVER COMES TO ME
SHALL NOT HUNGER, AND
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME
SHALL NEVER THIRST.

JOHN 8:12
I AM THE LIGHT OF THE
WORLD.

WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME
WILL NOT WALK IN
DARKNESS, BUT WILL
HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE.

JOHN 10:7-8
I AM THE DOOR OF THE
SHEEP.

ALL WHO CAME BEFORE
ME ARE THIEVES AND
ROBBERS, BUT THE SHEEP
DID NOT LISTEN TO THEM.

JOHN 10:11
I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD LAYS
DOWN HIS LIFE FOR THE
SHEEP.

Game Cards: Cut out the game cards and shuffle them altogether.

JOHN 11:25
I AM THE RESURRECTION
AND THE LIFE.

WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME,
THOUGH HE DIE, YET
SHALL HE LIVE...

JOHN 14:6
I AM THE WAY, AND THE
TRUTH, AND THE LIFE.

NO ONE COMES TO THE
FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH
ME.

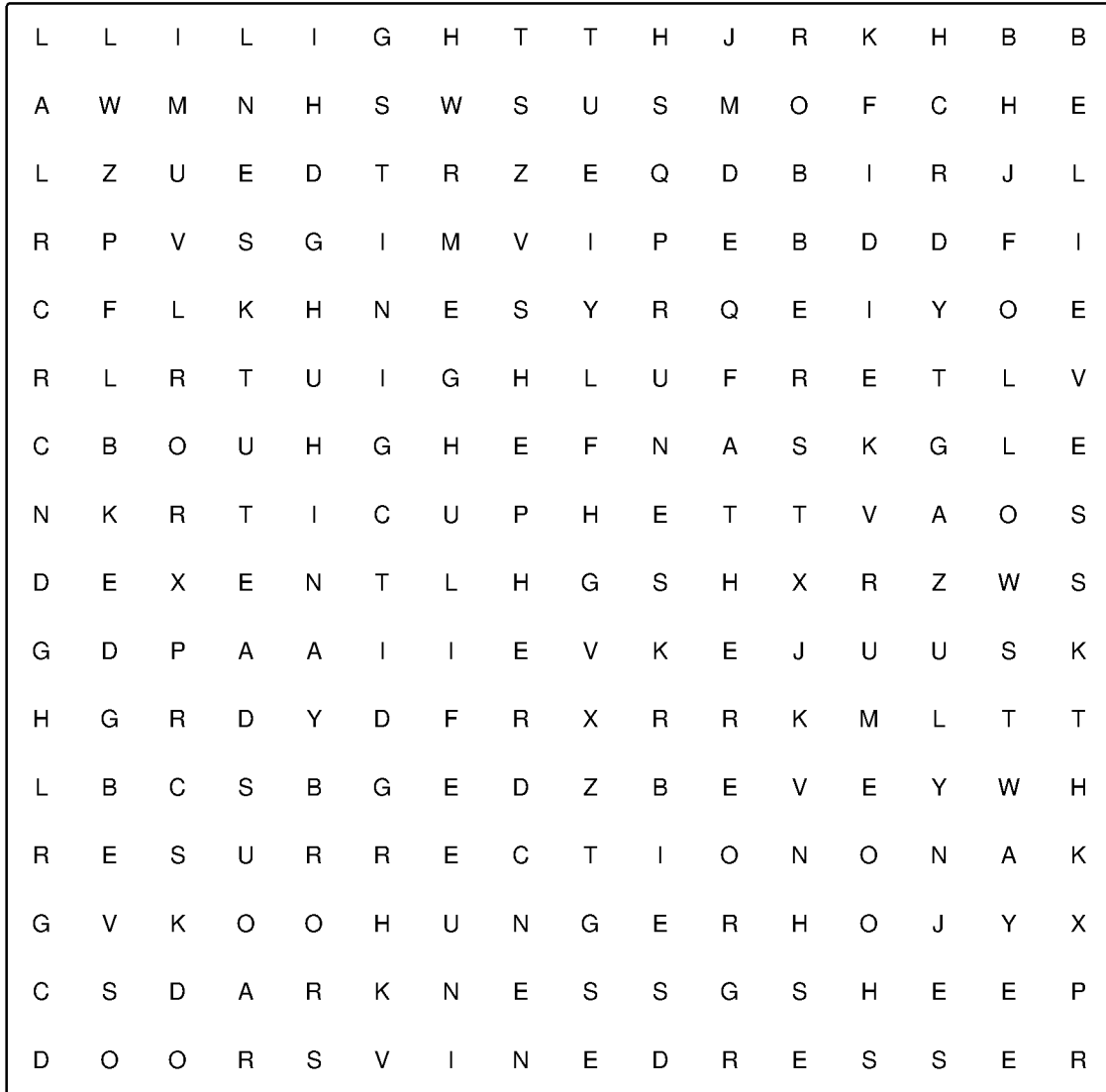
JOHN 15:1-2
I AM THE TRUE VINE, AND
MY FATHER IS THE
VINEDRESSER

EVERY BRANCH IN ME THAT DOES
NOT BEAR FRUIT HE TAKES AWAY,
AND EVERY BRANCH THAT DOES
BEAR FRUIT HE PRUNES, THAT IT
MAY BEAR MORE FRUIT.

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

WORD SEARCH

Below are the important words in the I AM statements of Christ. See how many you can find.



Words to Find:

BREAD
HUNGER
THIRST
LIGHT
FOLLOWS

DARKNESS
DOOR
THIEVES
ROBBERS
SHEPHERD

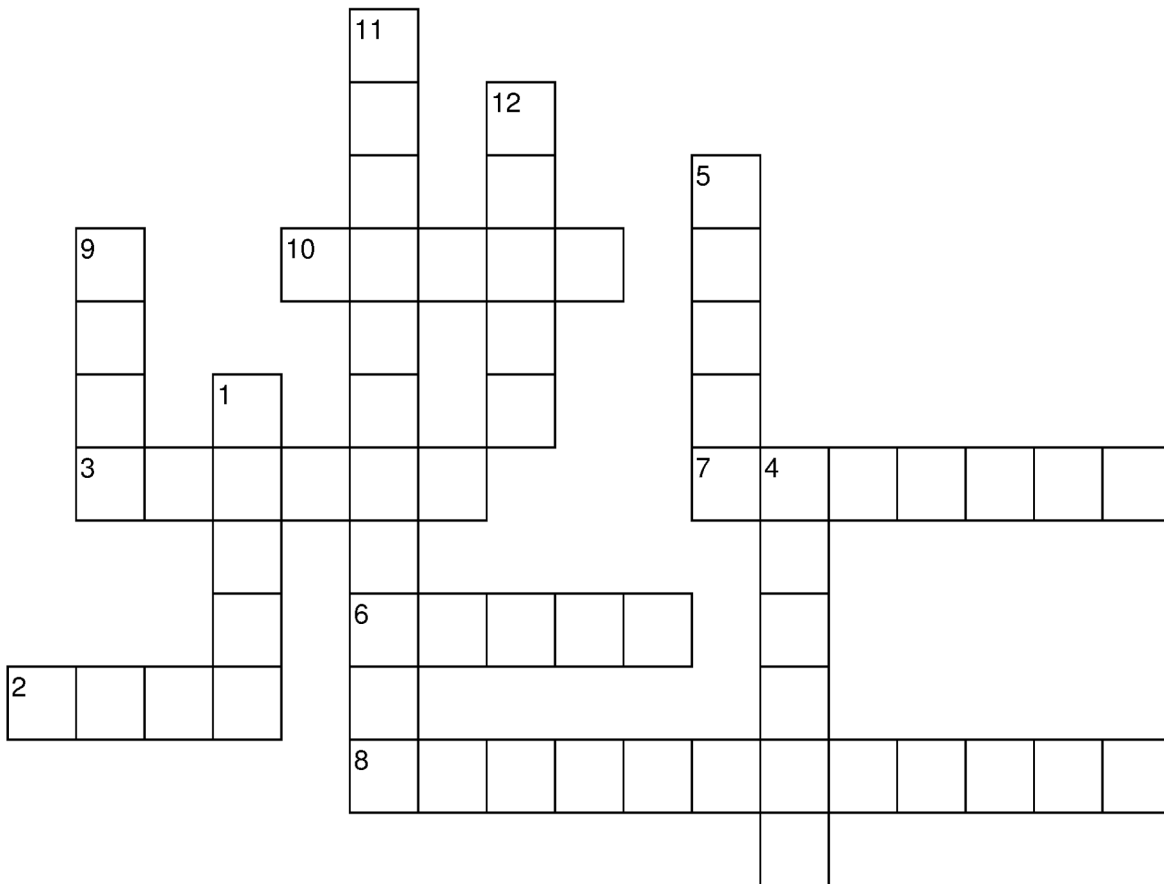
LIFE
SHEEP
RESURRECTION
BELIEVES
DIE

WAY
TRUTH
FATHER
VINEDRESSER
BRANCH
FRUIT
PRUNES

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Instructions: Fill in the crossword using the At-A-Glance Sheet about the seven I AM Statements.



Across

2. Gospel in which the I AM Statements are Found
3. The oddball chapter in those containing the statements
6. Jesus is a door of these creatures
7. These are robbers could not get the sheep to follow
8. Jesus is this and the life
10. No one comes to the Father except through...

Down

1. Number of I AM Statements
4. If we come to Jesus, we shall not experience this
5. The opposite of darkness
9. The way, the truth, and this
11. If Jesus is the vine, God the Father is this
12. A word for cutting back a plant so it will bloom more



This Week We Learned About ...

...the I AM statements of Jesus. The lesson helped children understand that Jesus was a lot more than a great prophet and kind healer. Jesus doesn't tell people that he knows the way to the door or that he can provide the bread of life. He said he IS those things. There are seven I AM statements Jesus made about himself, all in the Book of John. This lesson will help children see that no one could truthfully make such statements without being Lord of all.



✓ Questions for Kids:

1. Jesus refers to himself as the what of the world?
A. Light
2. Jesus is the vine and the father is what?
A. The gardener
3. Jesus also calls himself the good _____.
A. Shepherd

✓ Dinner Table Discussion:

Jesus says that he is that vine, we are the branches, and the Father is the gardener. What in our lives makes us branches that bear fruit? Can you describe the fruit in your life? Can you describe an area where you would like to grow or bear more fruit?

What do you think Jesus means when he says he is the bread of life and "whoever comes to me will not be hungry?" How do you feel "fed" in your spiritual life? In what ways do you feel lacking, if any, and in what ways do you feel you have everything you need?

Scripture Notes (tuck in lunchboxes, tape to mirrors, etc.):



...I AM the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.
John 6:35



...I AM the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.
John 15:1-2



...I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
John 10:11

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

REFERENCE SHEET



- All the I AM Statements of Jesus are from the **Book of John**.
- **They do not all occur in the same place**, like the Beatitudes (Jesus' eight BLESSED ARE... Statements from Matthew 5).
- The I AM Statements are in almost every other chapter of John, starting with **Chapter Six, then Eight, Ten (contains two), Eleven, and Fourteen**. So, think of them as being in every other chapter between Six and Fourteen, Eleven being the oddball, and Ten containing a double.
- They are spread throughout John's book because they were **spread throughout Jesus' ministry**. It was important to them that people understand who Jesus was, what his placement was in God's eyes, and what he could do for us. It was a big part of Jesus' ministry.



Seven "I Am" Statemets:

1...I AM the **bread of life**. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. (John 6:35)

2. ...I AM the **light of the world**. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. (John 8:12)

3. ...I AM the **gate**. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. (John 10:9)

4. ...I AM the **good shepherd**. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (John 10:11)

5. ...I AM the **resurrection and the life**. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; (John 11:25)

6. ...I AM the way and the **truth and the life**. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)

7. ...I AM the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. (John 15:1-2)



LEARNING LOOKUPS

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

Lookup: John 10:30 and write it down.


Lookup: 1 Timothy 2:5 and write it down.

Both of these verses describe the relationship between Jesus and God the Father. Try to describe it in your own words

Create a prayer below. Speak to God and write it. Ask God to give you a greater measure of the Holy Spirit so you can understand things, like this mysterious relationship between God and his son, Jesus.

"I AM" STATEMENTS OF CHRIST

QUIZ



Draw a line from the I AM Statement to the Explanatory that goes with it.

MATCHING I AM STATEMENTS & EXPLANATORIES

#1 John 6:35

I am the bread of life;

#2 John 8:12

I am the light of the world.

#3 John 10:7-8

I am the door of the sheep

#4 John 10:11

I am the good shepherd.

#5 John 11:25

I am the resurrection and the life.

#6 John 14:6

I am the way, and the truth, and the life.

#7 John 15:1-2

I am the true vine,

...No one comes to the Father except through me.

...whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

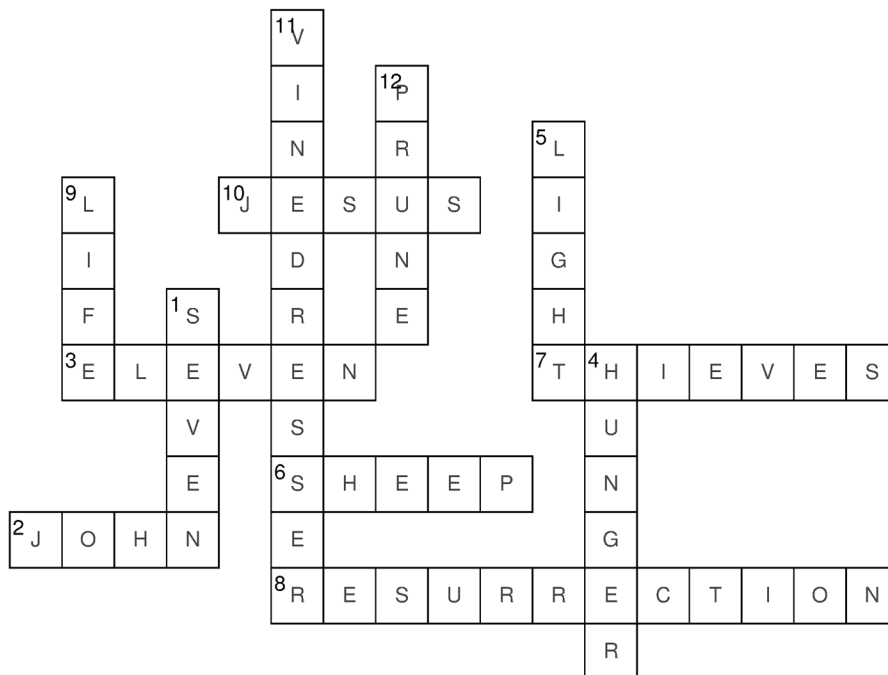
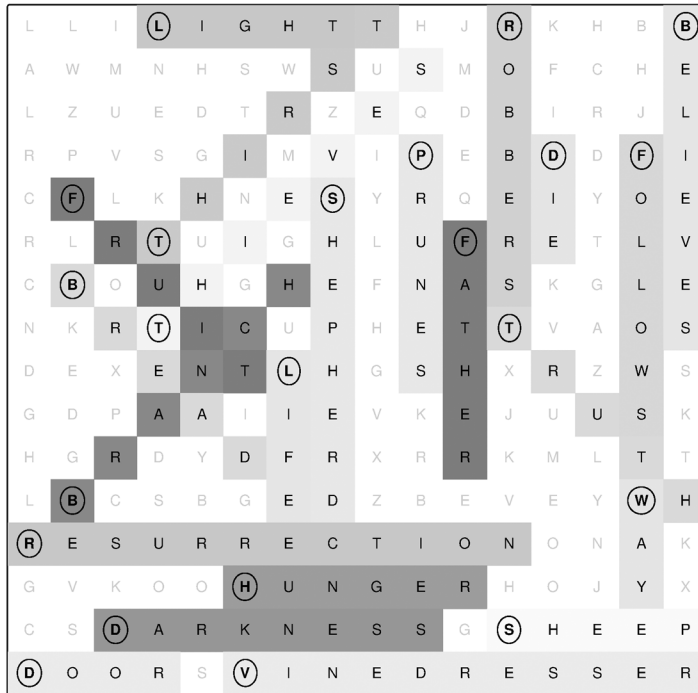
...Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live...

...Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

...All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

...and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

...The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.



“I AM” STATEMENTS

OF CHRIST

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

NAME:

DATE: