



Believe

JOHN

MESSAGE

STUDY GUIDE

GROUP MATERIAL

SONGS

The Ultimate Contrast: The “I Am” vs “I am not”

Bible Reading: John 18:1-27

The Climax of John’s Gospel

Jesus Took his Disciples to the Garden (Jn. 18:1-3)

- A. The garden was just outside Jerusalem to the east (v. 1)
- B. Jesus took his disciples there often (v. 2)
- C. Judas took Roman soldiers & Temple police to arrest Jesus (v. 3)
- D. Why is there no Gethsemane prayer in John 18? (Jn. 12:27-28)
 1. The Son exists in constant communion with the Father
 2. Obedience & piety vs dread & fear
 3. So the garden scene can center on the arrest

Jesus the “I Am” is in Complete Control (Jn. 18:4-14, 19-24)

- A. Jesus knew what was about to happen (v. 4a)
- B. Jesus walked out of the garden to meet Judas & the mob (v. 4b)
- C. Jesus interrogates Judas & the mob (vv. 4c-9)
 1. Jesus: “Who is it that you are seeking?” (v. 4b)
 2. Jesus: “I Am” (v. 5b)
 3. Judas, the soldiers & temple police fall to the ground (v. 6)
 4. Jesus: “Who is it that you are seeking?” (v. 7a)

- 5. Jesus: “*I Am*” (v. 8a)
- 6. Jesus protects his disciples: “*Let these men go.*” (v. 8b)
- D. Jesus corrects Peter’s failure (vv. 10-11)
 - 1. Peter’s violent act
 - 2. “*Put your sword away!*”
 - 3. “*Am I not to drink the cup my Father has given me?*”
- E. Jesus is led away to Annas, but controls the conversation (Jn. 18:12-14, 19-24)
 - 1. Jesus tells him to question those who’ve heard him speaking publicly (vv. 20-21)
 - 2. Jesus refuses to take back his words even when slapped (vv. 22-24)
 - 3. Intercalation (sandwich) structure in Jesus’ trial before the High Priest (Mk. 14; Jn. 18)

Peter’s Denials: “*I am not*” (Jn. 18:15-18, 25-27)

- A. Denies Jesus to a servant girl (v. 17)
- B. Denies Jesus to those warming themselves around the fire (v. 25)
- C. Denies Jesus to a relative of the man whose ear he cut off (vv. 26-27a)
- D. A rooster crowed (v. 27b)

Baptism: “I Am” vs “I am not”