

talk it *over*

Who is Jesus?

Key Scripture-

Matthew 8.23-27, 14.22-36, 16.13-19

GROW-

Exodus 3 // Philippians 2

LIVE-

“But what about you?” He asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

In the Scriptures names are more than identifiers or a label to determine who an individual is. A name was given as a reflection of character, and at times a description of one's nature. In the Book of Exodus a man by the name of Moses- whose name means *“to pull or draw out of”* because as a baby he was pulled out of/rescued from the water- this Moses asks God, what is Your Name? And God responds to Moses with the deeply mysterious, *“I AM WHO I AM.”* This Name is the Hebrew word, *Hayah*, and simply means, *“existed.”* Essentially God told Moses, My Name is BE. From this we get the letters YHWH, and the Name Yahweh. This name is reflection of how unchanging, and eternal God is and has always been. A description of His nature as all-knowing, all-powerful, and always present. A Name given to be called upon, worshiped, and passed down through generations. A Name considered so sacred and holy to this day many Jewish scribes will not dare pronounce it. A Name God gave Moses so His people might know of His goodness and His grace. And once Moses knew the Name of God everything changed. The relationship between God and His people took on an entirely different dynamic. God's people were no longer crying out to what might have felt like a distant God of their ancestors. God had given them His Name. A Name to be carried as evidence of His love for them, and called upon for rescue and deliverance in times of need.

LOOK-

Who do you say Jesus is?

Is He just a man? Or is He the I AM?

LOVE-

Jesus, the I AM. The I AM who put on flesh and blood. The I AM who emptied Himself, took on the nature of a servant, and moved into the neighborhood. The I AM who humbled Himself to death on a Cross and on the third day, to the glory of the Father, was resurrected to life again. The I AM who gave Moses His Name so the Israelites might know who would deliver them from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. And the I AM who has given us another Name by which He is known, the Name of Jesus. A Name that is above all other names and means, *“God saves.”*