

Sermon Guide: YHWH | Tim MacIntosh | Oct 08, 2023

In this message, Tim focuses on the significance of God's name, Yahweh, and its connection to the Hebrew verb "I am." He begins by illustrating how it is virtually impossible for us to truly know someone unless they share their story with us and invite us into relationship with them.

He emphasizes the importance of God's presence, God's power, God's revelation, and God's relationship with us, encouraging us to reflect on our own situations and identify where we need to experience God the most.

In examining the connection of the verb "I am" in Exodus 3, and referencing Deuteronomy 31 and Matthew 28, Tim describes how God's name is first of all an indication of his reassuring and powerful presence with us, one that will never leave us. But his name, as demonstrated by Yahweh's act of deliverance for his people from Egypt, is also an indication of his *power*.

On reflecting on Exodus 34, Tim explains that a third quality that spills out from his name is the *revelation* of his character. Although God punishes sin, He is also a God of unfathomable compassion, grace, and forgiveness. Finally, Tim states that, ultimately the purpose of his presence, power, and revelation to us is to draw us into *relationship* with him.

Finally, Tim concludes this message by drawing our attention to the passage in Philippians 2, and inviting us to hear afresh Paul's description of the exaltation of Jesus and his name; Jesus his God's ultimate presence, power, revelation and invitation into relationship with him.

Key Takeaways:

- Knowing someone's story allows us to truly understand and connect with them. This is true for our relationship with God as well. He reveals Himself to us through His actions, through Jesus, and through His name, Yahweh. This revelation brings comfort and power in our moments of helplessness and vulnerability. [\[12:45\]](#)
- God's character is multifaceted. He punishes sin, but He is also a God of compassion, grace, and forgiveness. His actions and revelations are all aimed at drawing people into a relationship with Him. This relationship is deepened when we address God as Father, Shepherd, and Jesus. [\[24:30\]](#)
- The presence of a friend during a difficult time can bring immense comfort. Similarly, Jesus promised to be with us always. Reflecting on our own situations and identifying where we need to experience God's presence the most can bring us closer to Him. [\[36:15\]](#)
- Experiencing God's presence is especially important in times of pain, heartache, loneliness, or struggle. Knowing that He is with us can bring comfort and strength. [\[48:00\]](#)

- God will never leave or forsake us. This promise is a powerful reminder of His constant presence and love for us. Inviting God's presence into our lives can bring peace and comfort. [\[59:30\]](#)

Bible Reading:

1. Exodus 3:1-15 [\[04:53\]](#)
2. Exodus 34:6-7 [\[25:23\]](#)
3. Philippians 2:9-11 [\[28:40\]](#)

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the significance of God revealing His name as "I am" to Moses in Exodus 3?
2. How does Exodus 34:6-7 describe the character of God?
3. What does the confession that "Jesus Christ is Lord" in Philippians 2:9-11 mean in the context of God's name as "I am"?

Going Deeper:

1. How does knowing God as "I am" affect your personal relationship with Him?
2. In what specific situation in your life do you need to remember that God is "I am", the all-present and all-powerful one?
3. How does acknowledging Jesus as Lord, as stated in Philippians 2:9-11, influence your daily decisions and actions?