

Waging War II: 'I AM' Study Questions

Start off this new season of your life in pursuit of a more holy and Christ-like life. The "I AM" study will encourage you and equip you with tools to reclaim the life and relationship you desire to have with Christ.

MESSAGE I. The Door —Audean "AJ" Miller

In this comedic sketch, actor AJ Miller (St. Daniel's UMC- Chester, PA) stumbles across The Door that will change his life. From Season 2 of Waging War: I AM Who I Say I AM ([Library Link](#)) Stay tuned for next month's lesson and discussion questions.

LESSON 1 OF 7

MESSAGE II. Who are You? I AM the Light! - Rev. Andre R. Briscoe, Jr.

Like today's young adults, Jesus is confronted by religious, political, social, and cultural opposition and judge according to human law. However, human law cannot judge God's son or supersede God's testimony to who Jesus is, the "light of the world." Like Jesus, religious, political, social, or cultural norms and labels cannot supersede our identity as followers of Jesus Christ and children of God. (John 8: 12-18)

Let's Dig Deeper

1: In the beginning of the Gospel of John, Jesus is described as being the "Word" and "Light." Read John chapter 1 and list other descriptions of Jesus which stands out to you. Do you see Jesus displaying any of these descriptions John 8:12-18? In light of John 1, where would you say Jesus comes from and is going when he speaks to the Pharisees? Where else in the New Testament scripture have you heard of Jesus referred to light or light associated with Jesus' life and or ministry?

2: Have people ever labeled or misjudged you based on your past, family/parental history, or current life situation; if so, list some of labels or judgments placed on you and for each describe how it made you feel, how you responded or did not respond. Also, describe any negative effects these judgments or labels have or had in your life. How does Jesus' response speak to your life and some of your struggles with labels and identity?

3: Have you ever experienced the light of Christ, if so when? Has Christ ever been a light for you in a dark situation or time in your life? Do you believe you have an identity in God? Using your list from the second question, what would you say your God characteristic are and how do they contrast the negative labels or judgments placed on you? Has God ever been a witness to testify against the dark, negative labels placed on you? Are you fully living in the light and identity God has given you? If not, what would you need to do to begin to live in it?

4: When we choose to follow Christ, we are charged with being like Christ. In your life daily life, are you sharing your light, the light of Christ, with others? How do you share your light with others? Have you ever shared your faith story or how you came to follow Christ with someone who you thought was walking in darkness?

About the minister

In May of 2015, **THE REVEREND ANDRÉ R. BRISCOE, JR.** was commissioned as a provisional Elder in the Baltimore Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church and serves as pastor of the Saint Matthew's New Life United Methodist Church in Baltimore, Maryland.

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LESSON 2 OF 7

MESSAGE III. Alpha & Omega— Joshua Foster

In this message, Joshua focuses on what it means for God to be the beginning, the end, and everything in between. (John 1:1-5, Revelations 22:13)

Let's Dig Deeper

Jesus gives us a perfect example of the intimate relationship we are to have with Him in John 15:5. Why do you think this affectionate relationship is necessary in regards to having tranquility with God?

What are some of the ways talked about in the message "Living with Eternal Value", that Minister Jackson says helps us-branches- stay connected the vine-Jesus?

There are three components to the system Satan uses to tempt humanity, leading people into living a temporal life. What are they?

Jesus desires for all Christians to continuously grow into mature children of God fully depending on The Holy Spirit for everyday life, as He did with His disciples. Give at least 3 reasons why a lot of so called Christians never see or get past religious carnal living.

About Joshua

Born and raised in the United Methodist church, Joshua A. Foster is a member of Janes Memorial UMC in Germantown, PA. Joshua is a wide receiver on Columbia's University Varsity football team, co-director of Columbia Faith & Action's weekly leadership lecture series, electric bassist and singer for Columbia Faith & Action's worship team, student director of Columbia's Methodist Campus Ministry, and a brother of the Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity's Nu Alpha Chapter. He is currently a senior finishing up his degree in Architecture with a focus on Sustainability and plans to continue on to graduate school to receive his Master of Architecture in order to become a fully licensed architect.

LESSON 3 OF 7

MESSAGE IV. I AM, So You Are — Min. Peter Blue, Sr.

In this teaching of Jesus, Min. Blue invites us to discover our identity in Christ. (John 8:58)

Let's Dig Deeper

1 Who has Jesus revealed himself to be to you in this season of your life?

2 What's next for young adults who have just received Jesus or experienced Him in a new way through this message?

3 Why is it important for us to know "Who Jesus is" when waging war against the things that mean to kill us, destroy us, and pull us away from Godly living?

4 How can we, as a body of believers, equip and ready fellow young adults to wage war against the true enemy of this world?

About the minister

Minister Peter R. Blue is a spirited preacher and teacher of God's Holy Word. He has been preaching, teaching, and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, since he became a Minister in 2005, by way of Word Power Baptist Tabernacle in District Heights, Maryland. He currently serves as an Associate Minister at Gethsemane Baptist Church of Washington, D.C., under the leadership of Senior Pastor Khalfani Drummer.

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MESSAGE V. Jesus, the Bread of Life— Min. Britni M. Johnson

In this message, Min Johnson brings us to the table so that we may take and eat the Bread of Life. (John 6:51)

Let's Dig Deeper

1. How does the bread God sent from heaven for the Israelite in the wilderness differ from Jesus the Bread of Life?
2. What are some instances in our life when we need Jesus, the Bread of Life to sustain us?
3. What does receiving the Bread of Life mean for those who accept Christ?
4. How can we bring others to the table that they may take and eat the Bread of Life?

About the Minister

Minister Britni Michelle Johnson spent her early years in Chester, Pennsylvania where she was introduced and accepted Christ as Lord and Savior of her life at a young age. Her parents, Anita and Inocencio Amaro, Sr., directed her Christian upbringing attending St. Daniel's United Methodist Church. Minister Johnson serves as an Associate Minister in the Gethsemane Baptist Church in Washington, DC. She is currently a Master of Divinity candidate at the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Arlington, VA.

LESSON 5 OF 7

MESSAGE VI. Christ, the Good Shepherd —Min. Britni M. Johnson

In this message, Min Johnson combats how the world depicts Christ and how it conflict with who He is as the Good Shepherd. (John 10:11)

Let's Dig Deeper

1. How has Jesus been the Good Shepherd to you?
2. What has people told you about Christ and how does that conflict with who He is as the Good Shepherd?
3. Since Jesus became the Holy Sacrifice and took the place of sinners, how ought the saved to live?
4. How must we bring other sheep that are not in the sheep pen to the Good Shepherd?

About the Minister

Minister Johnson serves as an Associate Minister in the Gethsemane Baptist Church in Washington, DC.

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LESSON 6 OF 7

MESSAGE VII. Living With Eternal Value — Min. Floyd B. Jackson, Jr.

Find encouragement from Min. Jackson as he instructs us, branches, on how to stay connected the vine, Jesus? (John 15:1)

Let's Dig Deeper

- 1) Jesus gives us a perfect example of the intimate relationship we are to have with Him in John 15:5. Why do you think this affectionate relationship is necessary in regards to having tranquility with God? (hint: line (b) of v5).
- 2) What are some of the ways talked about in the message "Living with Eternal Value", that Minister Jackson says helps us (branches) stay connected the vine (Jesus)?
- 3) There are three components to the system Satan uses to tempt humanity, leading people into living a temporal life. What are they? (hint: listen closely to the beginning of message).
- 4) Jesus desires for all Christians to continuously grow into mature children of God fully depending on The Holy Spirit for everyday life, as He did with His disciples. Give at least 3 reasons why a lot of so called Christians never see or get past religious carnal living. (No specific answer)

About the Minister

Minister Floyd B. Jackson is a member of Asbury A.M.E. Church, where The Rev. Dr. Stanly Gordon Smith is Senior Pastor. Min. Floyd is currently a licensed preacher under the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and believes God has honored him with the calling of being a sheep-herder of His people. Floyd holds an Associates' Degree in Liberal Arts, Bachelors Degree in Psychology both from Widener University and is currently a Masters of Divinity candidate at Palmers Theological Seminary.

LESSON 7 OF 7

MESSAGE VII. Prepare to Live, Not Die Min. — Peter Blue, Sr.

In "Prepare to live, not die", Min. Blue reminds us with Christ, you do not only live once. You will, indeed, live again. (John 14:6)

Let's Dig Deeper

- 1 Examine how living by secular mantras like "You Only Live Once" (YOLO) can alter the plan God has for the lives of young people.
- 2 Which scriptures and life applications encourage a more Christ-centric mindset?
- 3 Consider the reactions of audiences present when Jesus revealed, "I AM...". Why do you think there is a resistance to get God's Word through to the Young Adult men and women?
- 4 How can we move forward in our faith today, when we disagree or don't fully understand God's plan for our lives?

About the minister

Minister Peter R. Blue currently serves as an Associate Minister at Gethsemane Baptist Church of Washington, D.C.

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MESSAGE IX. Who I AM—Chris "C.A." Adams

Through a lyrical telling of Christ Life & Resurrection is voiced as an autobiographical sketch. (John 11:25)

About the artist

Chris is a rapper and spoken word artist. The recent Rutgers University grad attends Christian Stronghold Baptist Church in Philadelphia, PA. For more inspirational pieces, contact Chris at ca2coldmusic@gmail.com.

Congrats, you've made it through the second season of Waging War. I pray that through the discussions and prayer, we've encouraged you to trust the Word of God and put it to work in your life. God Bless You for joining the frontline as a participant! May grace and favor shine upon you as you continue to pursue Christ as your Savior, choose to follow His Word faithfully, and present the Word of God to others.