

Welcome to IPC Women's Monday Night Bible Study!

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

We all live off his generous bounty, gift after gift...

This endless knowing and understanding...

all this came through Jesus, the Messiah."

John 1



Women's Monday Night Bible Study - 2008/2009

Irvine Presbyterian Church

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Curriculum Notes:

At Irvine Presbyterian Church we have three different Women's Bible Studies: Monday Night, Wednesday A.M., and Classic Women. **Crossovers between the studies are welcome.** The Wednesday lectures are taped and archived on the church website (follow the links for Women's Ministries, and then Bible Studies at <http://www.irvinepres.org/>).

In 2006/2007, we studied: *The Book of Daniel* (Fall 2006, teacher Jan Pickett) and *The Book of Revelation* (Winter and Spring 2007, teachers Jean Webb, Barbara Buck, Tim Avazian, and Kirk Winslow).

In 2007/2008, we studied: *The Letter to the Philippians* (Fall 2007, Monday Night Bible Study teachers were Amy Brown and Jean Webb), Richard Peace's *Contemplative Bible Reading* (Winter 2008, Monday Night Bible Study teachers were Susan Scace, Debbie Haley, Jean Webb, Donna Miramontes, Anita Coleman, and Barbara Hull) and *The Epistle of James* (Spring 2008, Monday Night Bible Study teacher was Anita Coleman).

IPC Bible Study Guidelines

Welcome to Women's Monday Night Bible Study, a Women's Ministries program of Irvine Presbyterian Church.

We have a few simple guidelines and these are as follows.

- 1) Show up! That is the most important thing – being here! Come as you are.
- 2) Come prepared by having done your lesson. At minimum, read the scripture for the week. If you cannot do that, refer back to item #1.
- 3) No one will ever be asked to read or share or pray out loud. All participation is voluntary.
- 4) However, we do encourage you to be willing to participate in the discussion. If you are someone who likes to talk a lot, try to listen more. If you are someone who tends to be quiet, try to talk a bit more.
- 5) Everything in your small group is CONFIDENTIAL! Nothing that is shared in the group will be discussed outside the group unless specific permission is given.
- 6) We will have an opportunity to pray for each other. In light of the time constraints, please keep your prayer requests brief and concise. Although we are also concerned about your Aunt Suzy's nephew's neighbor's issues, we are more concerned about you and how we can pray for you.
- 7) We are not here to give advice. We want to provide a safe place for everyone to share openly their concerns without the pressure of giving or receiving advice. This is not the place to solve problems, but to present them to the Lord in prayer with the fellowship and discipleship of the small group.
- 8) We are committed to starting and stopping on time.
- 9) We encourage you to make a commitment to attend Bible study regularly. The regular study of God's Word in the fellowship of other women will not only benefit you, it will also help those who plan the study.
- 10) Currently, we do not offer nursery care. If you need childcare, please let us know and we will try to arrange it.

Introduction to Women's Monday Night Bible Study: Covenant Groups in Celebration, Gratitude and Discipleship

Guiding Principles:

- 1) The goal of Monday night Bible study is to provide a safe environment for women, especially working professionals, to delight in God's Word.
- 2) The Bible study is open to all women in our community – non believers, new believers, and mature followers of Jesus. Our Bible study will try to meet the needs of all these audiences through a variety of ways such as small group discussions, expository teaching, and intercessory prayer.
- 3) We are open to the Holy Spirit's guidance and leadership.

Continuing our Focus on the Spiritual Disciplines and Growing in Christ:

The church has linked the desire to know God with many intentional practices, relationships, and experiences. Known as *spiritual disciplines*, the practice of these help us to form a natural rhythm to our spiritual life. In 2007/2008, Women's Monday Night Bible Study, began exploring the *spiritual disciplines* and these pages explain some of the key disciplines we are using – Bible Study, Celebration, Covenant Group, Gratitude, Discipleship, and Contemplative Prayer/Bible Reading (*Lectio Divina*) - to help us grow closer to God, and become more like Jesus Christ, individually and as a community. As Foster (1988) writes, “God has given us the Disciplines of the spiritual life as a means of receiving his grace.” (p. 7). “The Spiritual Disciplines are intended for our good. They are meant to bring the abundance of God into our lives.” (p. 9).

BIBLE STUDY

DESIRE – to know what the Bible says and how it intersects with my life

DEFINITION - Bible study involves engaging the mind and focusing attention on Scripture in an attempt to understand and apply truth to every part of my life.

SCRIPTURE - *I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.* Psalm 119: 11

PRACTICE INCLUDES - Reading not to master Scripture but to be mastered by it.

GOD-GIVEN FRUIT - Having Scripture shape and form my thinking and lifestyle so they are increasingly redemptive and life giving.

CELEBRATION

DESIRE - to take joyful, passionate pleasure in God and the radically glorious nature of God's people, Word, world and purposes.

DEFINITION - Celebration is a way of engaging in actions that orient the spirit towards worship, praise and thanksgiving.

SCRIPTURE - *The Lord your God is in your midst; a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with his gladness, he will quiet you by his love; He will exult over you with loud singing.*
Zephaniah 3: 17

PRACTICE INCLUDES - Identifying and pursuing those things that bring the heart deep gladness and reveling in them before the Lord.

GOD-GIVEN FRUIT - Freedom from the addictions of criticism and negativity.

COVENANT GROUP

DESIRE - to enter into authentic, confidential, healing relationships with a committed group of fellow pilgrims

DEFINITION - A covenant group is composed of people who commit themselves to helping and encouraging one another, as each prayerfully seeks to live out God's will in their lives.

SCRIPTURE - *Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day of Christ approaching.* Hebrews 10: 25

PRACTICE INCLUDES - Practicing Scripture in the context of a committed community

GOD-GIVEN FRUIT - Journeying with others in transparent and authentic ways that lead deeply into the reality of being God's family.

GRATITUDE

DESIRE - to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's prompting to live with a grateful heart, aware of God's work in my life and my abundant resources.

DEFINITION - Gratitude is a loving and thankful response toward God for his presence with us and within this world.

SCRIPTURE - *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.* Philippians 4: 6

PRACTICE INCLUDES - Keeping a gratitude journal of the many gifts God has brought us.

GOD-GIVEN FRUIT - Seeing what I have as quickly as I see what I don't have.

DISCIPLESHIP

DESIRE – to be in a relationship where I am encouraged or where I encourage another to become an apprentice of Jesus.

DEFINITION - Discipleship is the process of equipping, training, and encouraging another in his or her apprenticeship to Jesus.

SCRIPTURE - *Jesus...said to his disciples, How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!... With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.* Mark 10:23, 27

PRACTICE INCLUDES – meeting to study the Bible, modeling Christian virtues and disciplines.

GOD-GIVEN FRUIT – keeping company with Jesus as we fulfill his command to make disciples.

LECTIO DIVINA

DESIRE - to prayerfully encounter and surrender to the living God through Scripture.

DEFINITION – Devotional reading or hearing of Scripture, Lectio Divina, requires an open, reflective, listening posture alert to the voice of God. It is aimed at developing a relationship with God as opposed to just gathering information about God.

SCRIPTURE – *Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.* Psalm 119:111

PRACTICE INCLUDES – listening deeply for God's personal word to you from Scripture.

GOD-GIVEN FRUIT – keeping company with Jesus, responding to God's Word with your heart and spirit, having Scripture guide your dialog with God.

Source: Adele Ahlberg Calhoun. *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us.* Downer's Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

Components of Small Groups

A healthy small group should do more than study the Bible. There are four components as you structure your time together.

Nurture. Being a part of a small group should be a nurturing and edifying experience. You should grow in your knowledge and love of God and each other. If we are to properly love God we must know and keep his commandments (John 14:15). This is why Bible study should be a foundational part of your small group. But you can be nurtured by other things as well. You can memorize Scripture, read and discuss a book, or occasionally listen to a tape of a good speaker.

Community. Most people have a need for close friendships. Your small group can be an excellent place to cultivate such relationships. Allow time for informal interaction before and after the study. Have a time of sharing during the meeting. Do fun things together as a group, such as a potluck supper or a picnic. Have someone bring refreshments to the meeting. Be creative!

Worship. A portion of your time together can be spent in worship and prayer. Praise God together for who he is. Thank him for what he had done and is doing in your lives and in the world. Pray for each other's needs. Ask God to help you to apply what you have learned. Sing hymns together.

Mission: Many small groups decide to work together in some form of outreach. This can be a practical way of applying what you have learned. You can host a series of evangelistic discussions for your friends or neighbors. You can visit people at a home for the elderly. Help a widow with cleaning or repair jobs around her home. Such projects can have a transforming influence on your group.

Extracted from: Andrew T. Lepeau and Phyllis J. Lepeau. *James: Faith That Works: 9 Studies for Individuals or Groups* (Lifeguide Bible Studies). InterVarsity Press, 1987, 1999. p. 45.

Sample Covenant

- **Attendance:** I agree to be at the meeting each week, unless a genuine emergency arises.
- **Preparation:** I will practice the *lectio* during the week and share with the group as I am able
- **Participation:** I will participate in the group experiences willingly and enthusiastically
- **Prayer:** I will pray for the members of my small group and for our group, and Bible study
- **Confidentiality:** I will not share with anyone outside of the group what is said in the group session
- **Honesty:** I will be honest and forthright in what I say
- **Openness:** I will be candid in appropriate ways and give others the freedom to be similarly so
- **Respect:** I will not judge others, give advice, or criticize
- **Care:** I will be open to the needs of the Bible study and of each person in appropriate ways
- Others:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Adapted from Richard Peace. *Contemplative Bible Reading: Experiencing God Through Scripture*. Colorado Springs: NavPress, 1996, 1998. p. 9-10

Bible Study Goals Worksheet

As you begin this Bible study of *The Gospel of John*, what are some of the goals you would like to work on? Check one or two from the list below:

- To get to know God in a more personal way
- To understand what I believe as a Christian and where I stand on issues
- To develop my skills in Bible study and personal devotions
- To belong to a small group that will support me in my growth
- To think through my values and priorities in light of God's will
- To wrestle with the next step in my spiritual journey with others who care

What are you willing to commit to in the way of the disciplines during the next six weeks?

- To complete the Bible study homework before the group meets
- To attend the group meetings except in cases of emergency
- To share in leading the group - taking my turn in rotation
- To keep confidential anything that is shared in the group
- To reach out to others who are not in a group and invite them in
- To take my turn to be hospitable - bring a light refreshment one week
- To pray for others in my group and for the Women's Bible studies

Adapted from: Lyman Coleman and Richard Peace. *James: Mastering the Basics: Personal Excellence through Bible Study*. London, Serendipity Foundation: 1986. p. 13

*O God,
you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you;
for in returning and rest we shall be saved;
in quietness and trust shall be our strength.*

Isaiah 26:3; 30:15

*"For God so loved the world
that he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.
For God did not send his Son into the world
to condemn the world,
but to save the world through him."*

John 3: 16-17

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,..."

John 17: 1

Weekly Schedule

| | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 6:45 – 7:00 | - | Fellowship, refreshments and prayer requests |
| 7:00 – 7:20 | - | <i>lectio divina</i> |
| 7:20- 7:40 | - | small group discussion (use discussion questions as assigned) |
| 7:40 – 7:45 | - | Announcements |
| 7:45 – 8:30 | - | Lecture; Q&A |

Prayer Exchanges and Prayer 'Partners'

It is a privilege and an honor to be able to pray for one another. In our world today this is one of the most needed things that we can do for our neighbors and friends. Every week upon arrival, please take a prayer request form and follow the instructions to complete it. During small group time, drop your request into the prayer bag and pick another one in exchange for it. This is the person/request for whom you will pray in the week ahead. We encourage you to get to know your prayer partners.

Small Group Vision and Guidelines

IPC Small Groups are designed to connect people to Jesus Christ and to one another in authentic ways that will promote life-transformation through relationships, the study of God's Word, service, and prayer. Monday night small groups are meant to facilitate the formation of small groups.

- 1) Group sizes will vary (no less than 4 and no more than 6 is recommended).
- 2) Groups *may* change every week; rotation is encouraged, avoid staying with the same person/group, and please make everybody feel welcome.
- 3) Monday night Bible study leaders will rotate as much as possible and try to lead their group.
- 4) Remember to exchange prayer requests during small group time, if not already done so, and to close in prayer (pray for each other's requests if there is time and the requests are not confidential).
- 5) Discuss the questions assigned – this is the primary task during small group time.

Discussion Questions

Each week during the small group discussion time we will discuss 3 of the following questions from the Connolly study guide (each group/leader selects the 3 they want to discuss):

1. Select one (or more) question(s) from the chapter for the week.
2. Group discussion question – this is the question at the beginning of each chapter.
3. Personal reflection question – this question is also at the beginning of each chapter.
4. Now or Later question – this question is at the very end of each chapter.

2008/2009 Syllabus
(subject to change as led by the Holy Spirit)

Fall 2008 – John: 1- 9

Study Guide: Doug Connelly. *John: The Way to True Life*. InterVarsity Press. Rev. ed. 2002.

Starting and Closing Dates: September 15 – December 1, 2008

Length: 11 sessions (+ 1 “Fellowship Evening”; 11/24)

During the week, pray for your 'partner' faithfully and at next meeting, do follow up on prayer requests that were exchanged. Homework (HW) is optional. Individual, daily lectio divina (LD) is optional too although you are highly encouraged to do this daily on your own; you can select the verse from the reading assigned for the week or from the group lectio in the prior week.

Session Dates and chapters covered (Chapter references are to the Connolly study guide)

September 15 – IPC Women's Ministries Bible Study Guidelines & Introduction to *The Gospel of John*
HW: chapter 1 discussion questions; lectio divina: use the verse that is on the cover of this booklet

September 22 – chapter 1, John 1 (HW: chapter 2 discussion questions)

September 29 – chapter 2, John 2 (HW: chapter 3 discussion questions)

October 6 – Ch. 3, John 3 (HW: chapter 4 discussion questions)

October 13 – Ch. 4, John 4 (HW: chapter 5 discussion questions)

October 20 – Ch. 5, John 5 (HW: chapter 6 discussion questions)

October 27 – Ch. 6, John 6 (HW: chapter 7 discussion questions)

November 3 – Ch. 7, John 7: 1-52 (HW: chapter 8 discussion questions)

November 10 – Ch. 8, John, 7:53-8:11 (HW: chapter 9 discussion questions)

November 17 – Ch. 9, John 8: 12-59 (HW: chapter 10 discussion questions)

Nov. 24 - “Give Thanks” Fellowship evening; no bible study (no HW!)

Dec. 1 – Ch. 10, John 9 (HW: review chapters 1-10 discussion questions)

Teacher: Anita Coleman

(CHRISTMAS BREAK- 5 weeks)
Practice *Lectio Divina*

Winter 2009 – John: 10 – 17

Study Guide: Doug Connelly. *John: The Way to True Life*. InterVarsity Press. Rev. ed. 2002.

Starting and Closing Dates: January 12 – March 23, 2009

Length: 11 sessions

During the week, pray for your 'partner' faithfully and at next meeting, do follow up on prayer requests that were exchanged. Homework (HW) is optional. Individual, daily lectio divina (LD) is optional too although you are highly encouraged to do this on your own; you can select the verse from the reading assigned for the week or from the group lectio in the prior week.

Sessions Dates and chapters covered (Chapter references are to the Connolly study guide)

Jan. 12 Intro/Re-cap; (HW: chapter 11 discussion questions)

Jan 19 – Ch. 11, John 10 (HW: chapter 12 discussion questions)

Jan 26 – Ch. 12, John 11 (HW: chapter 13 discussion questions)

Feb. 2 – Ch. 13, John 12 (HW: chapter 14 discussion questions)

Feb. 9 – Ch. 14, John 13: 1-17 (HW: chapter 15 discussion questions)

Feb. 16 – Ch. 15, John 13 18-28 (HW: chapter 16 discussion questions)

Feb 23 – Ch. 16, John 14 (HW: chapter 17 discussion questions)

Mar. 2 – Ch. 17, John 15: 1-11 (HW: chapter 18 discussion questions)

Mar. 9 – Ch. 18, John 15: 12-16:4 (HW: chapter 19 discussion questions)

Mar. 16 – Ch. 19, John 16: 5-15 (HW: chapter 20 discussion questions)

Mar. 23 – Ch. 20, John 16: 16-33 (HW: chapter 21 discussion questions)

No breaks in studies or fellowship events planned

Teacher: Anita Coleman

(EASTER BREAK- 3 weeks; Easter is April 12th)

Practice *Lectio Divina*

Spring 2009 - John: 18 – 21

Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these? He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you. John 21: 15 (NRSV)

Study Guide: Doug Connelly. *John: The Way to True Life*. InterVarsity Press. Rev. ed. 2002.

Starting and Closing Dates: April 20 – June 1

Length: 7 sessions

During the week, pray for your 'partner' faithfully and at next meeting, do follow up on prayer requests that were exchanged. Homework (HW) is optional. Individual, daily lectio divina (LD) is optional too although you are highly encouraged to do this on your own; you can select the verse from the reading assigned for the week or from the group lectio in the prior week.

Session Dates and chapters covered (Chapter references are to the Connolly Study Guide)

Apr. 20 - Intro / Re-cap; Ch. 21, John 17: 1-26 (HW: chapter 22 discussion questions)

Apr. 27 – Ch. 22, John 18: 1-27 (HW: chapter 23 discussion questions)

May 4 – Ch. 23, John 18: 28-19:16 (HW: chapter 24 discussion questions)

May 11 – Ch. 24, John 19: 17-42 (HW: chapter 25 discussion questions)

May 18 – Ch. 25, John 20 (HW: chapter 26 discussion questions)

May 25 – Ch. 26, John 21 (HW: chapter 27 discussion questions)

June 1 - Review (Dinner begins at 6:00 pm)

Teacher: Anita Coleman

Practice *Lectio Divina*

Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

John 21: 25

HOW TO DO LECTIO DIVINA

Lectio Divina can be done in a group or individually. Whether done in a group or individually, set aside 15 – 30 minutes and withdraw to a quiet place. Steps include:

1. Prepare (invite Holy Spirit; use a centering prayer; visualize) – 3–5 minutes
2. **Read/Listen:** Read passage aloud – 1-2 minutes
3. Listen for word or phrase that touches you – 1-2 minutes
4. **Meditate:** how is my life is touched by this word; what are the connections between this word and my life – 3 – 5 minutes
5. **Pray:** Offer these thoughts to God. Respond to God. Ask yourself: Am I being invited to respond? Am I being encouraged to do something? - 2 – 3 minutes
6. **Contemplate:** Sit in silence. “Be still”; “Rest” in God – 3 – 5 minutes
7. *Repeat: Every time your mind starts wandering, read the passage and start the process anew.*
8. Pray: Offer thanks and praise to God. - 2 – 3 minutes

The following provides more details of the steps and is from p.33 of Peace:

Prepare - Take 3-5 minutes

Light candles and say the Trinity prayer of protection: May the Light of God surround us, may the Blood of Jesus protect us, and may the Holy Spirit guide us.

Sit in silence with your eyes closed. Let your body relax.

Listen (read aloud 2x the word of God and listen for a word or phrase that touches you):

After one minute silence: ***Offer the word or phrase to God. Repeat the word or phrase. Meditate on God's word.***

Listen (read Scripture passage aloud):

After two minutes silence meditate on: ***How is my life touched by this word?***

Read Scripture passage aloud:

After two minutes silence meditate on: ***Am I being invited to respond?***

Read Scripture passage aloud:

After two minutes of contemplation, close in prayer. You can use a prayer by one of the Church fathers such as this **Prayer by Anselm:**

Grant, O our God, that we may know you, love you, and rejoice in you; and if in this life we cannot do those things fully, grant that we may at the very least progress in them from day to day, for Christ's sake. Amen.

HOW TO DO EXEGESIS

Exegesis is the “critical explanation or interpretation of a text or portion of a text, esp. of the Bible.” The word critical is used in the sense of analysis. Those who practice exegesis are called exegetes.

STEPS IN BASIC EXEGESIS:

Repeatedly read the passage and the entire chapter BEFORE you read a commentary or any other writing on it. Write down all the questions that come to mind. These questions will help you do your research.

Read your passage in at least three modern translations. Do you notice any differences? Are they significant differences or just differences in wording?

Try to identify the passage's literary form. Is it poetry, prose, allegory, apocalyptic, letter (epistle), etc.? The type (form) of material is important to interpretation.

Examine introductory issues: authorship, date, audience

What appears to be the primary message of the passage within its literary context?

What are the major themes?

What is the immediate context of the passage? Focus on the passage before and also explore how the verse or passage fits into the broader section of the document in which it is located.

Analysis of passage (verse by verse)

Identify significant words or phrases (example: sin, salvation, righteousness of God, etc.)

Identify cultural practices or norms

What does it say about God, ourselves, and our relationship to Him?

APPLY:

After you have attempted to understand the original meaning of the passage, consider how the passage might apply to modern life issues and parallels and what we can learn from it.

REFERENCES

Commentaries:

Craig S. Keener. *The Gospel of John: A Commentary – 2-Volume Set (Hardcover)*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 2003.

John Barton & John Muddiman, Editors. *Oxford Bible Commentary*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Movies:

The Gospel of John. Visual Bible International, 2003. (The Good News Bible, American Bible Society)

General References (Tools for Christian discipleship):

Adele Ahlberg Calhoun. *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook: Practices that Transform Us*. Downer's Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

Ricard J. Foster. *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1988.

Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for all it's Worth*. 3rd edition. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2003. This is a primer on exegesis and hermeneutics for the Christian layperson.

Richard Peace. *Contemplative Bible Reading: Experiencing God Through Scripture*. Colorado Springs: Navpress: 1996, 1998.. This is a good introduction on the practice of contemplative bible reading (group and individual *lectio divina*).

Study Bibles (Tools for Christian discipleship):

Four different and popular versions of the Bible that combine devotional and study bible functions and available today are the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), the New International Version (NIV), the New American Standard Bible (NASB) and The Message.

Eugene Peterson. *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2002.

New American Study Bible. (Zondervan publishes several editions)

Richard J. Foster, General Editor: *Renovaré Spiritual Formation Bible: New Revised Standard Version*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 2005.

Zondervan's New International Version Study Bible. Grand Rapids, Zondervan: 1995, 2002.

Invitation: We are always looking for people to join the leadership team. If you discern God's call to serve on the Monday night Bible study team, please let one of us know.

The Women's Monday Night Bible Study Leadership Team includes:

Pastors: Rev. Barbara Buck, Chaplain, Women's, Seniors, & Singles Ministries
Rev. Tim Avazian, Associate Pastor, Adult & Family Ministries

Leader: Helen Tornquist (helentornquist@pacbell.net)

Co-leader: vacant

Registrations: Suzanne Vertuno

Hospitality: Donna Sousa-Wright & Jennifer Yamaguchi

**Announcements
& Prayers:** Christi Long

Feedback Facilitator: Linda Clinard

Miscellaneous: Linda Barnett

Teacher: Anita Coleman

Women's Ministries Steering Committee Chair: JoAnne Norlin

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6: 35

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "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

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

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me" John 10: 14

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11: 25-26

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 the vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15: 5