

# Life's Journey

## The "I Ams" of Jesus: a visual aid for teaching purposes

This is a visual message which you can print out, cut out and paste together to make a poster (or use as a modern-day form of "flanograph"). See page 2 to see how it all comes together. Subsequent pages have the large illustrations to be cut out. Page 7 will allow you to reinforce Scripture verses. Participants can color, piece together or take notes on copies of pages 8 and 9.

Probably the most effective way to use this material is place the pieces on the poster board one at a time as you talk. You can say something like "Jesus is the beginning (Alpha or, to us "A") and the end (Omega or, to our culture, "Z")... and sustains everything in between (He is the Way)." As you say that, place the "A" on the bottom left corner of your poster and the "Z" on the top righthand corner. Then draw or place a previously drawn path between the "A" and the "Z" (the path is not provided since poster sizes vary).

Next, you can ask questions such as: "Jesus is the Way and the life, so what all do we need on the journey of life?" (or on any journey, for that matter). The answers will, of course, be varied, but you can ask: "wouldn't it be nice to have an excellent guide?" Then offer: "Jesus said 'I am the Good Shepherd;' He is the best Guide anyone could ask for."

Then ask: "what happens after you've been on a trip for awhile?" Answer: "you get hungry and thirsty". Well, Jesus said "I am the bread of life" and offered living water to all who were thirsty. "What do we need in order to better see the road up ahead?" Answer: "light". Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." But what if we get confused and turned around along the way? We need solid information about the right way. Jesus said "I am the Truth."

Finally, ask: "how we are supposed to reach our final destination, how are we to approach God and enter into His presence?" Again, Jesus said "I am the door." Then make any final applications about Jesus and how He is the only way to the Father. Read (before, to yourself, or after, to the class) Colossians 1:15-20 and discuss how Jesus is the beginning, the middle (sustainer) and the end of all things.

### Here are the Biblical references for this visual study:

Jesus said "**I am** the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty'" (Revelation 1:8; 21:6). Jesus told His disciples plainly: "**I am** the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father (God) except through me" (John 14:6). "**I am** the good shepherd" (John 10:11), He said. He also declared: "**I am** the bread of life" (John 6:35). Jesus promised that "to him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life" (Revelation 21:6; see also John 4:10; 7:38). And Jesus claimed that "**I am** the light of the world" (John 8:12) and "**I am** the door" (John 10:9).\*

*May God bless you as you lead others to discover Who Jesus really is – and what He can do for those who repent and put their faith in Him!*

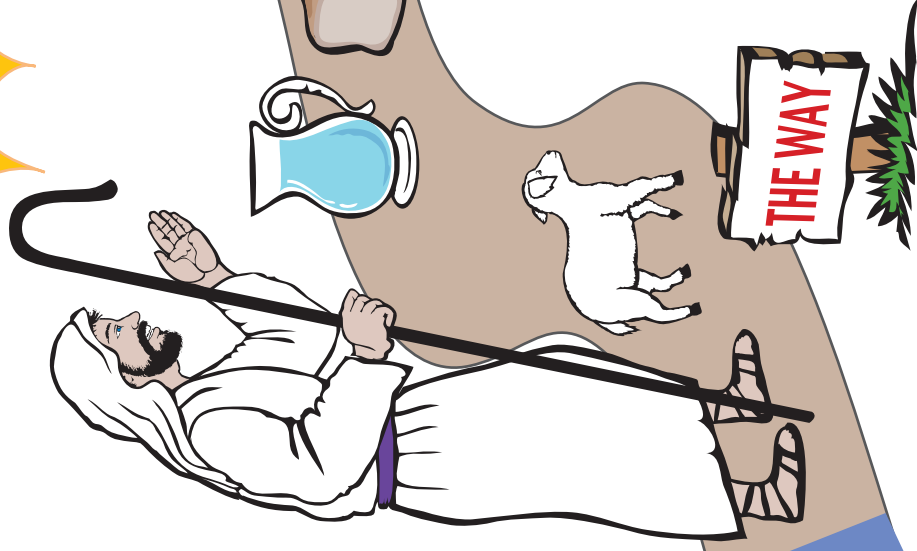
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(\*) **Other claims Jesus made about Himself:** "**I am** the Son of God" and "anyone who has seen me has seen [God] the Father" (Matthew 27:43 and John 14:9). He claimed to be the promised Messiah or Christ (Mark 14:61, 62; John 4:25, 26). Jesus admitted being King (Luke 23:3) and having a Kingdom (Matthew 13:41). Jesus said He was Teacher and Lord (John 13:13). Jesus also said "**I am** from above; I am not of this world" (John 8:23).

# JESUS:

- > **Beginning** (Origin, Creator)
- > **Middle** (Sustainer)
- > **End** (Ultimate Purpose and Destiny)

[See Colossians 1:15-20]

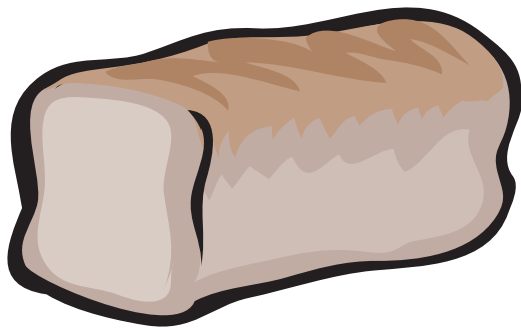


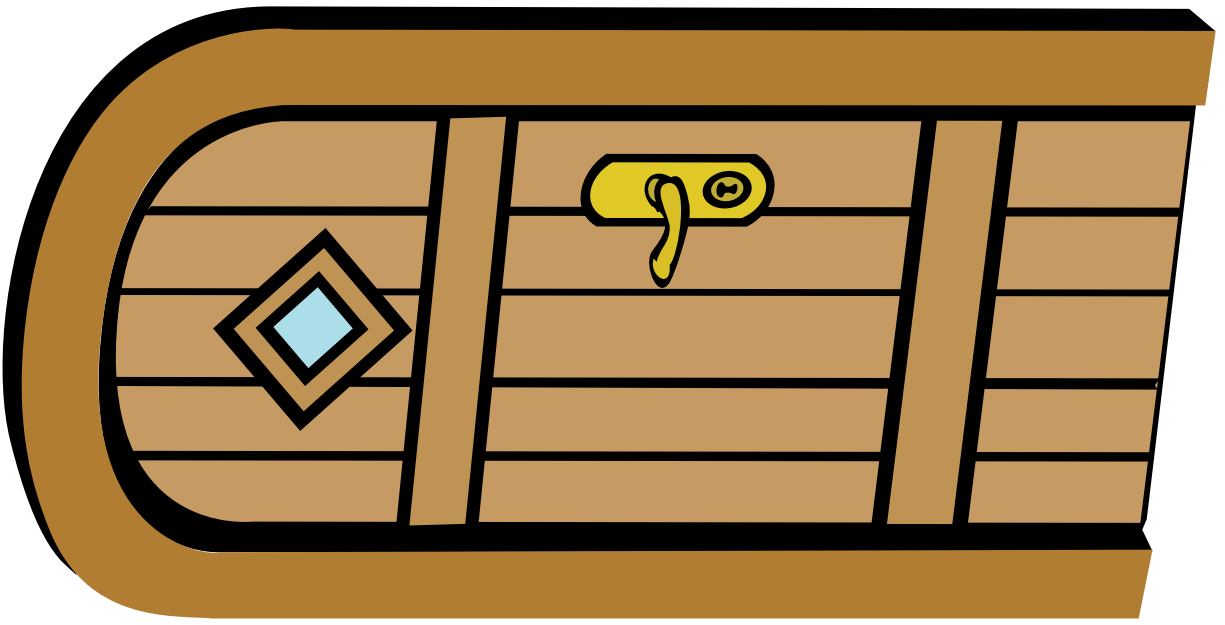
Revelation 1:8

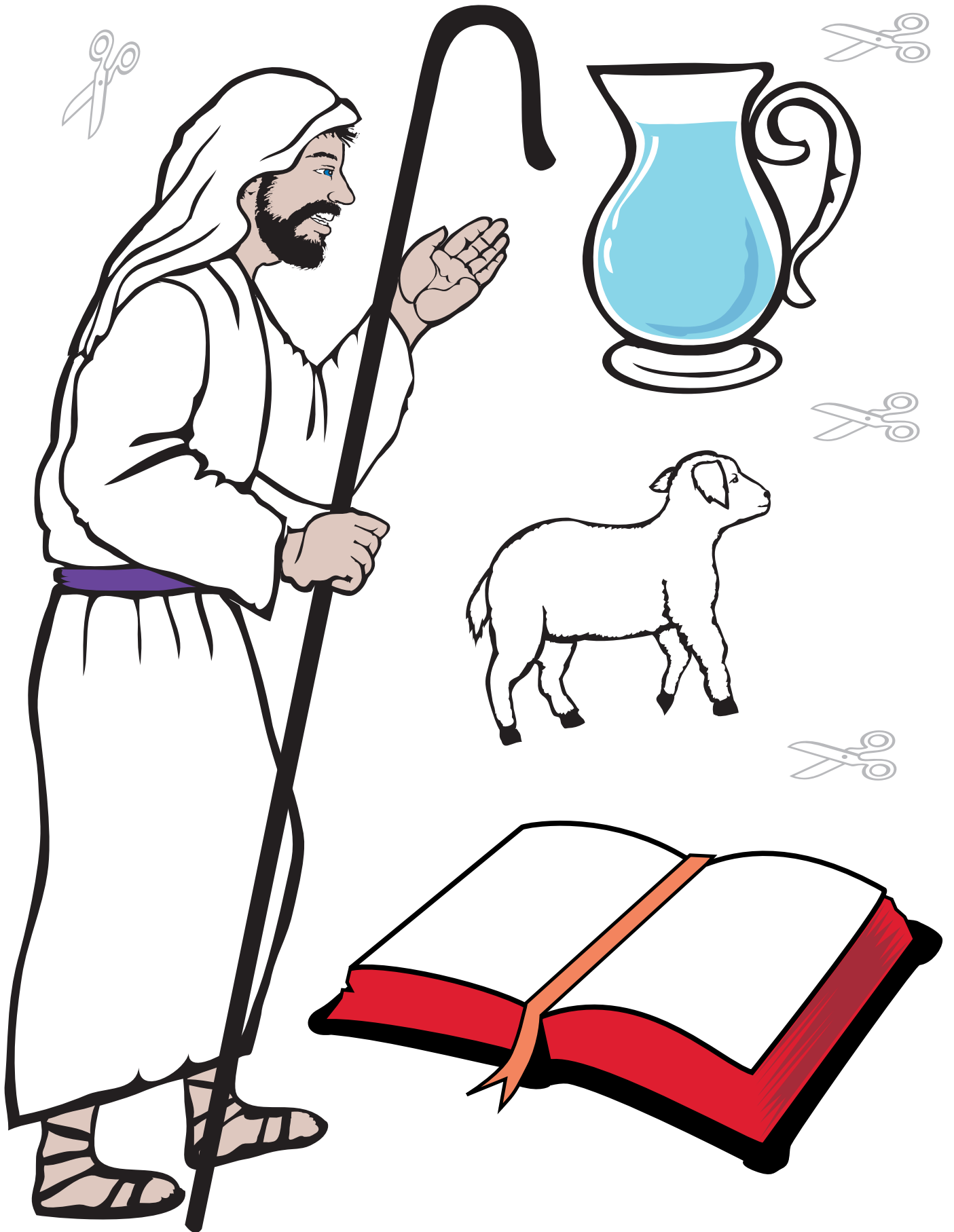
John 14:6

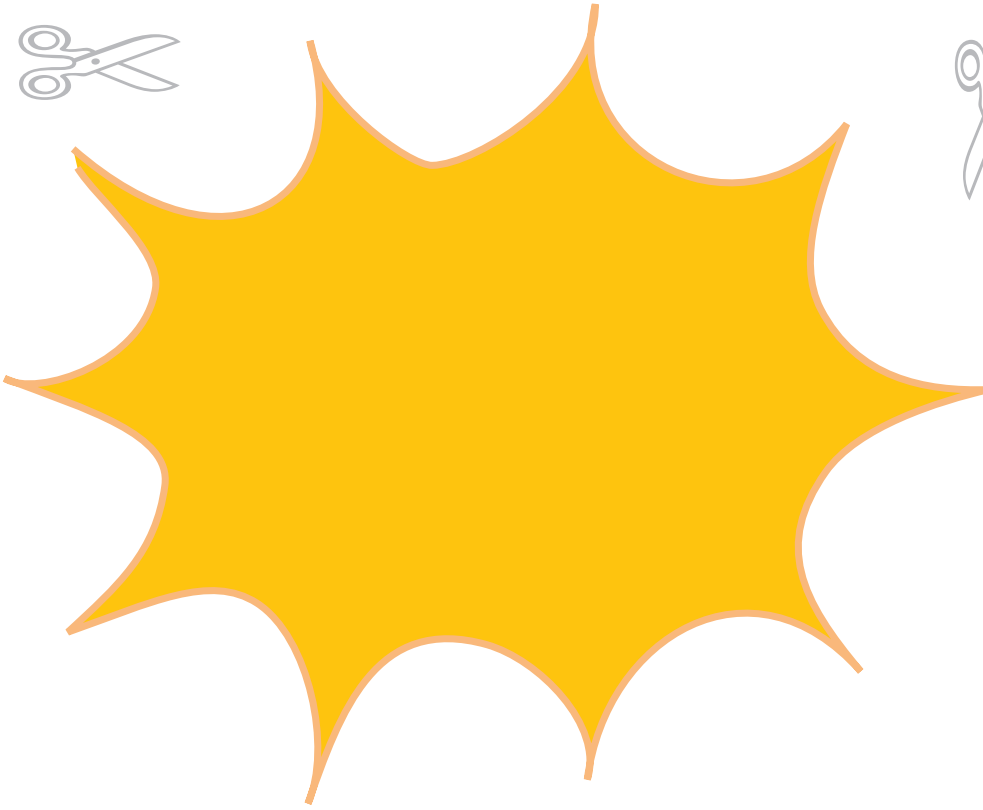
To get from A to Z on life's highway, we need:

- A path (the Way)
- Vision (the Light of the World)
- A good guide (the Good Shepherd)
- Nutrition (Bread of Life, Living Water)
- Understanding (Truth, God's word)
- A means to reach God (the Door)









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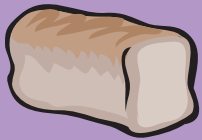


I am the **Alpha and the Omega**, says the Lord God, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.  
(Revelation 1:8)

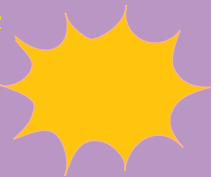
Jesus answered, I am **the way and the truth and the life**. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)

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

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 gate**; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. (John 10:9)

But whoever drinks **the water** I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life. (John 4:14)



# Jesus

