

Painting a Picture of Jesus

HANDOUTS AND VISUALS



8 Colors That Illustrate the “I AM” Word Pictures of
Jesus for Children

MELANIE NEWTON

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We are so grateful to Ron Newton for suggesting the idea of using paint colors in a portrait to represent the “I Am’s” of Jesus. That has been enjoyed by both the children and the adults who have used these lessons and the adult Bible Study for women, *Painting the Portrait of Jesus*.

The paint palette graphic in the lessons is adapted from Microsoft Clip Gallery image j0410869.wmf. Graphics and illustrations throughout this file are taken from public domain websites or developed by the author.

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Melanie Newton is the author of “Graceful Beginnings” books for anyone new to the Bible and “Joyful Walk Bible Studies” for established Christians. These are grace-based studies for women of all ages. Each study guide follows the inductive method of Bible study (observation, interpretation, application) in a warm and inviting format. Melanie’s ministry mission is to help women learn to study the Bible for themselves and to grow their Bible-teaching skills to lead others.

We pray that you will find *Painting a Picture of Jesus* to be a resource that God will use to strengthen the children you teach in their faith walk with Him.

Christ-Focused • Bible-Rich • Grace-Based



“Painting a Picture of Jesus” Parent Page

The *Painting a Picture of Jesus* lessons for children focus on the “I am” statements Jesus made in the gospel of John to “paint” Himself as the answer to the spiritual needs of every person. These “I am” declarations are like colors Jesus used for the canvas of His own self-portrait so His followers could know Him better and understand His significance in their lives. These “colors” reveal the Jesus that we follow. Studying them is in a sense *Painting a Picture of Jesus*.



Below are the “I Am’s” and the associated memory verses, colors, and meanings. Make it fun by encouraging children to dress according to the color of the week.

8 Colors That Illustrate the “I AM” Word Pictures of Jesus for Children

1. Jesus is the “I AM” (white): He is the answer to the spiritual needs of every person. *“What I’m about to tell you is true,” Jesus answered. “Before Abraham was born, I AM!” (John 8:58 NIRV)*
2. Jesus is the BREAD OF LIFE (purple): His abundant love satisfies our hunger for a relationship with God. *“I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever go hungry. And no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty.” (John 6:35 NIRV)*
3. Jesus is the LIGHT OF THE WORLD (yellow): Jesus’ light directs us to follow Him. *“I am the light of the world. Those who follow me will never walk in darkness. They will have the light that leads to life.” (John 8:12 NIRV)*
4. Jesus is the GATE FOR THE SHEEP (orange): There is safety in following Jesus and doing life His way. *“What I’m about to tell you is true. I am like a gate for the sheep... Anyone who enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out. And he will find plenty of food.” (John 10:7, 9 NIRV)*
5. Jesus is the GOOD SHEPHERD (green): You can enjoy a forever relationship with Him. *“I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and my sheep know me.” (John 10:14 NIRV)*
6. Jesus is the RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE (blue): To His followers, He gives eternal spiritual life now and eternal physical life in a new body after death. *“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even if he dies.’” (John 11:25 NIRV)*
7. Jesus is the WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE (red): Jesus gives us His life so that we are totally loved and accepted by God our Father. Celebrate! *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” (John 14:6 NIRV)*
8. Jesus is the VINE (brown): He nourishes us with His life so we bear fruit in our lives that represents our connection with Him. *“I am the VINE. You are the branches. If anyone remains joined to Me, and I to him, he will bear a lot of fruit. You can’t do anything without Me. (John 15:5 NIRV)*

White = "the presence of God"



Jesus is the "I AM."

*"What I'm about to tell you is true,"
Jesus answered. "Before Abraham
was born, I am!" (John 8:58 NIRV)*

Jesus is the answer to the spiritual
needs of every person.



Purple = “abundance, satisfied”

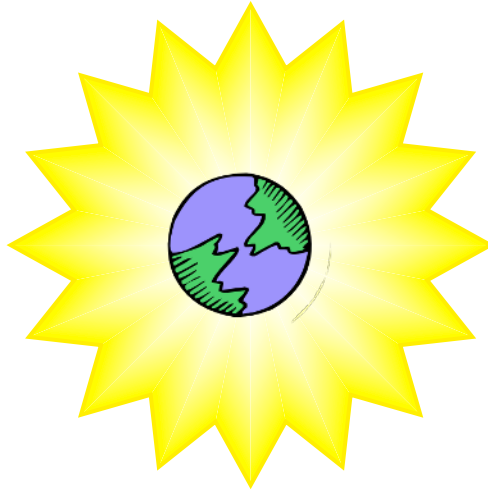


Jesus is the BREAD OF LIFE.

“I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever go hungry. And no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty.” (John 6:35 NIRV)

His abundant love satisfies our hunger for a relationship with God.

Yellow = “light, direction”



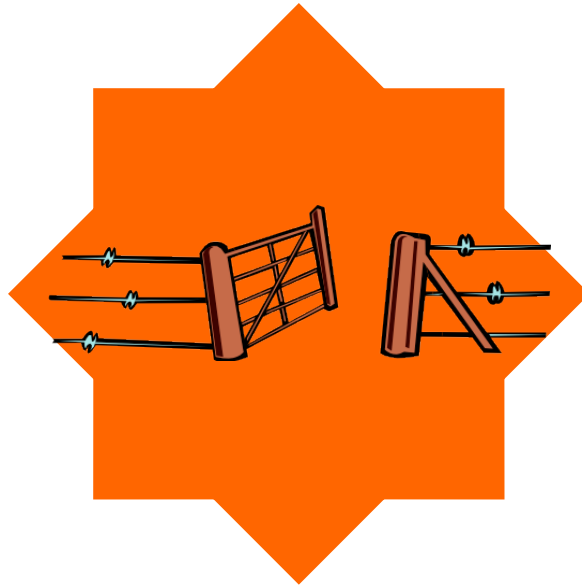
**Jesus is the LIGHT OF THE
WORLD.**

***“I am the light of the world.
Those who follow me will never
walk in darkness. They will have
the light that leads to life.” (John
8:12 NIRV)***

His light directs us to follow Him.



Orange = “safety”



Jesus is the GATE FOR THE SHEEP.

“I am like a gate for the sheep... Anyone who enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out. And he will find plenty of food.” (John 10:7, 9 NIRV)

There is safety in following Jesus and doing life His way.



Community Sheep Pen



Hillside Sheep Pen

Green = “relationship”



Jesus is the GOOD SHEPHERD.

*“I am the **good shepherd**. I know my sheep, and my sheep know me.” (John 10:14 NIRV)*

You can enjoy a forever relationship with Him.

Blue = “hope of eternal life”



Jesus is the RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.

“I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even if he dies.” (John 11:25 NIRV)

He gives to His followers eternal spiritual life now and eternal physical life in a new body after death.

Red = “love, life, celebration”



**Jesus is the WAY, THE TRUTH,
AND THE LIFE.**

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6 NIRV)

Jesus gives us His life so that we are totally loved and accepted by God our Father. Celebrate!

Brown = “nourishment to bear fruit”



Jesus is the VINE.

"I am the vine. You are the branches. If anyone remains joined to me, and I to him, he will bear a lot of fruit. You can't do anything without Me." (John 15:5)

He nourishes us with His life so we bear fruit that represents our connection with Him.

