



JESUS IS... COUNSELOR – DOOR – EMMANUEL

Author: Annette R. Evans

P_{review}

This is one of a series of lessons examining Jesus' character and power by exploring His titles and adjectives from A to Z. (*Titles and adjectives are from the King James Version of the Bible and may be different in other translations.*)

The apostle John's writings include many adjectives and titles of Jesus: Word, Good Shepherd, Resurrection, and Vine, to name a few. John wanted us to believe in Jesus:

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John 20:31).

P_{raise}

Getting to know Jesus' character and power personally, like John did, increases our desire to introduce others to Him. If you would like, share one aspect of Jesus' character that you have personally experienced (for example, His love, protection, mercy, life, etc.); then let's praise Him together for who He is. (*Allow time for a few responses and then praise Him together.*)

P_{arable}

Let's talk about some titles and adjectives describing Jesus that begin with the letters C, D, and E.

Read **Isaiah 9:6** from your Bible.

- What title beginning with C did you hear in this verse? (*Counselor*)

A counselor gives advice and tries to help others make good decisions. There are many different types of counselors to help in many different areas of life.

- What are some types of counselors? (*school guidance, financial, grief, spiritual, relationship/family, fitness, mental health, substance abuse, legal, etc.*)



Counselors attempt to give valuable advice, but sometimes counselors may be no help at all—perhaps because they are limited in their abilities or a situation is too overwhelming.

However, Jesus is a wonderful Counselor. He can go beyond a human counselor's ability and is not limited by anything. Who better than your Creator to help you make good decisions about your education, money, relationships, etc.!

Jesus is a compassionate Counselor. Who better to help you deal with grief, mental anguish, spiritual confusion, etc.!

Present

Notice one of Jesus' titles that begins with the letter D as we read from John 10. *Read **John 10:1, 7-9** from the Bible.*

- What D title is in these verses? (*Door*)
- What is the purpose of a door? (*to let things in or out; to keep things in or out*)

I've heard that in Jesus' day, a shepherd would lead His sheep into a walled area at night, and he himself would lie down and sleep across the entrance. He was the "door."

- Jesus said anybody who doesn't go through the door but climbs up some other way is a what? (*thief and robber*)

Now listen to verse 10. *Read **John 10:10** from your Bible.*

- What did Jesus say the thief comes to do? (*steal, kill, and destroy*)
- Satan comes to steal, kill, and destroy our lives, but why does Jesus come? (*that we might have life and that more abundantly [in great amount, plentifully, richly supplied]*)

Jesus is the Door: the gateway to salvation and life; the barrier to the thief who would destroy us.

Practice

Notice the E title that describes Jesus as I read from Matthew 1. *Read **Matthew 1:23** from your Bible.*

- What is the E title in this verse? (*Emmanuel*)
- Matthew gave the meaning of the word "Emmanuel" right there in the verse. What does "Emmanuel" mean? (*God with us*)



This verse comes after the angel has told Joseph that Mary is going to have a very special baby. *Read **Matthew 1:20-21** from the Bible.*

God, who is almighty and invisible, came to us in a human body so that He could be seen and touched and so He could die as a sacrifice for our sins. Some might choose to avoid sinners, but Jesus is Emmanuel: God with us.

Pray

Romans 3:10 says, “There is none righteous, no, not one,” and verse 23 says that “all have sinned.” Knowing that God is holy (pure, sinless), it would seem He would want to keep His distance from us, but this is not the case. He chooses to be our Counselor, our Door, our Emmanuel. He chooses to be with us: loving us, forgiving us, saving us, helping us.

Let’s take a moment to pray and thank God for being with us. And if there is anything separating us from Him, let’s ask for forgiveness and let Him know we want to be with Him too.

Plus

This week take some time to think about Jesus’ titles and adjectives that begin with the letters C, D, and E. Use the handout to explore some more of these.