

## **How to Use Sermon Resources**

- **READ AHEAD TOGETHER** - MCG's should use the Devotional at the end of this resource as a reading plan for the week leading up to your meeting.
- **SIT UNDER THE WORD** - This resource is filled with scripture references. Read them aloud, together before you answer any questions.
- **APPLY TRUTH** - The goal is deep discussion and application, not necessarily to complete this resource. Don't squash a good discussion. If you get into something important along the way that's fine.

## **Small Group Discussion Guide**

**Opening Prayer** [ 2 mins ]

**Use the Overview** [ 5 mins ]

- Cover any key points for people who missed parts or all of the sermon

**Scripture Deep Dive** [ 30-40 mins ]

- Opening Question
- Read the scripture for each question then ask the question. Some have multiple scriptures.

**Close in Prayer**

- In this extended prayer time, ask others to pray as they feel led, pray in a circle, pray over one another, pray to your left, or pray for someone specific. Whatever seems best.

**Split Time (if applicable)**

- Men with men, women with women
- Share in a circle. "What's one thing you want to celebrate? What do you need prayer and accountability for?"
- After everyone shares, pray in a circle for the person to your left/right.

# **SERMON OVERVIEW**

## **From Throne Room to Mission Field - Isaiah 6**

### **Sermon Summary:**

This sermon explores Isaiah 6 as a transformative encounter with God's holiness that reshapes our understanding of ourselves and our mission. J.D. emphasizes that drawing closer to God changes our perspective—just as the Rocky Mountains become more awe-inspiring the closer you get, so too does our view of God's majesty increase as we seek Him. The message walks through Isaiah's vision of God on His throne, his recognition of his own sinfulness, the grace of atonement, and his immediate response of obedience to God's call. The central premise is that when we fix our eyes on the Lord, everything else comes into focus. This leads to a natural overflow of mission and obedience, not as a burden but as a response to transformative grace.

### **Key Points:**

- A right view of God is a high view of God—He is holy, sovereign, and seated on His throne regardless of earthly circumstances
- God's holiness reveals our true condition as sinners with unclean lips and hearts desperately in need of grace
- God provides sufficient grace through Jesus Christ, who bore our sins and offers atonement and cleansing
- Transformation by grace leads to a natural response of obedience and mission—"Here I am, send me"
- Mission begins where we live, work, and play, not just in foreign lands
- We must pursue silence, solitude, and personal holiness to truly see God for who He is
- When we fix our eyes on the Lord, everything else in life comes into focus

### **Scripture Reference:**

- Isaiah 6:1-13 (primary passage)

### **Stories:**

- JD's 2019 family sabbatical trip across the United States, particularly the experience of driving toward the Rocky Mountains for two hours as they gradually came into view, becoming more majestic and awe-inspiring the closer they got—used as an illustration of how our perspective of God changes as we draw nearer to Him
- The binoculars illustration: when you first look through binoculars, the image is blurry until you adjust the lens and bring it into focus; the object doesn't change, but how you see it does—used to illustrate that when we fix our eyes on God rather than our problems, everything comes into focus

# Scripture Deep Dive

## Opening question

Think of a time your perspective changed dramatically after you “saw the bigger picture” of something (work, family, news, etc.). How is that similar to what happens spiritually when we begin to see God more clearly?

## Point 1 – A right (high) view of God – “Look up

Read Isaiah 6:1–4

Question: What specific details in these verses show that God is completely set apart from all earthly power and authority, and how do those details correct common shallow views of God? (For deeper study: compare to Exodus 3:4–6 and Revelation 4:8–11. How do these passages together build a “high view” of God?)

## Point 2 – A right view of self – “Look in”

Read Isaiah 6:5; Romans 3:23; Jeremiah 17:9

Question: Isaiah responds, “Woe is me... I am ruined,” when he sees God’s holiness. Based on these verses, why is genuine awareness of God’s holiness always accompanied by a deep awareness of our own sinfulness, and how does this differ from merely feeling guilty or ashamed?

## Point 3 – A right view of grace – “Look to the cross”

Read Isaiah 6:6–7; Isaiah 53:4–6; 1 Peter 3:18 –

Question: In Isaiah 6, the burning coal removes Isaiah’s guilt and atones for his sin. Using these three passages together, explain how the coal in Isaiah 6 foreshadows the work of Christ on the cross, and why grace must involve both cleansing from guilt and payment for sin’s penalty rather than God simply “overlooking” sin.

## Point 4 – A right view of obedience and mission – “Look out”

Read Isaiah 6:8 & Romans 12:1–2

Question: Isaiah responds, “Here I am. Send me.” Using these verses, explain why seeing God’s mercy (grace) makes obedience and mission a “living sacrifice” response rather than reluctant duty, and identify one specific way this should reshape how a Christian thinks about everyday life (where they live, work, and play).

Read Isaiah 6:9–13; Acts 13:1–3; 2 Timothy 4:2

Question: God calls Isaiah to preach to a people who largely will not listen. Comparing these passages, why does God still send His people to speak even when results seem small or slow, and how does this challenge results-focused or comfort-focused attitudes toward serving and sharing the gospel?