

Encountering the Holiness and Grace of God

Isaiah 6:1–8

Based on the sermon by Pastor Kevin Darr
Calvary Chapel Grants Pass

Asking God to begin with us

God's holiness exposes our need, His grace provides cleansing, and His mercy moves us toward willing obedience. As we ask Him to renew our love for Jesus, this study helps us respond personally to His Word.

Name _____

Date _____

Before you begin

Read **Isaiah 6:1–8** aloud from the NKJV. Ask the Lord for an honest, teachable heart. Keep your Bible open as you answer; distinguish what the passage says from the application you draw from it.

Use pages 1–10 for personal study or a 60–75 minute group discussion. Leader notes are on pages 11–14. In a group, choose a few application questions for deeper conversation and complete the others during the week.

Beginning the study

Following the passage

Isaiah 6:1 — The Lord remains on His throne.

Isaiah 6:2–4 — His holiness calls for reverence.

Isaiah 6:5 — We become honest about our own sin.

Isaiah 6:6–7 — We receive the cleansing God provides.

Isaiah 6:8 — We offer our lives in response to grace.

Opening reflection

Which part of the sermon stayed with you, and what made it personal?

Words to remember — **Isaiah 6:8:** *“Here am I! Send me.”*

Seeing the Lord clearly

The Lord remains on His throne

Read **Isaiah 6:1**. Uzziah's reign has ended, yet Isaiah sees the Lord enthroned. God's rule gives us someone trustworthy to turn to when circumstances change.

1 Observe What has happened to the earthly king, and what does Isaiah see concerning the Lord?

2 Understand What does this vision affirm about God when life is uncertain? What does it leave unexplained about particular losses?

3 Apply Where is uncertainty taking too much of your attention? Describe one way you can entrust that concern to the Lord this week.

Receiving His holiness with reverence

Read **Isaiah 6:2–4**. The seraphim worship near the throne. Their name is commonly understood as “burning ones.” Each has six wings: two covering the face, two covering the feet, and two used for flight.

4 Observe What do the seraphim do and proclaim? What happens to the temple as they worship?

5 Understand Why can God’s complete purity both comfort us and expose the weakness of comparing ourselves with other people?

6 Apply What would more attentive reverence look like in your Bible reading, worship, or obedience this week? Name one change.

Becoming honest and receiving grace

Becoming honest about our own sin

Read **Isaiah 6:5** and **Luke 6:45**. Isaiah recognizes his own uncleanness before speaking of the people around him. His confession includes his lips, and Jesus connects our speech with the heart.

7 Observe What does Isaiah acknowledge about himself and his people, and what has brought him to this recognition?

8 Understand According to **Luke 6:45**, why does examining our speech involve more than learning to use nicer words?

9 Apply privately Identify one pattern of speech or attitude you need to confess. What truthful step of repentance would address it?

Receiving the cleansing God provides

Read **Isaiah 6:6–7** and **Ephesians 2:8–10**. Cleansing comes before Isaiah’s commission. The sermon connects this provision of grace with the salvation Jesus provides through His death and resurrection.

10 Observe Where does the coal come from, where does it touch Isaiah, and what assurance is he given?

11 Understand How does the order of cleansing and service help explain the relationship between salvation and good works in **Ephesians 2:8–10**?

12 Apply What would receiving God’s forgiveness look like while you also take responsibility for any consequences of your actions?

Offering our lives to the Lord

Responding to grace with willingness

Read **Isaiah 6:8**, then **Isaiah 6:9–13**. Isaiah offers himself before hearing the full assignment. The following verses show that faithful service can include resistance and difficulty.

13 Observe How does Isaiah respond to the Lord’s question? What has happened to him before he offers to go?

14 Understand How does **Isaiah 6:9–13** keep us from treating Isaiah’s response as a formula for immediate success or national revival?

15 Apply What is one act of obedience you can offer the Lord within your actual responsibilities and limits, even if results are slow?

Coming to Christ

The sermon calls each of us to respond personally to Jesus. He died for our sins and rose from the dead. We receive forgiveness and new life through faith in Him. If you have never trusted Christ, turn to Him honestly and ask a pastor or mature believer to help you understand that response. If you already belong to Him, bring the area He has exposed into a renewed walk of obedience.

My next step

One truth I need to keep before me this week

One action I will take and when I will take it

Someone I can ask for prayer or appropriate help

Praying in response

Lord, help me see You clearly and become honest about my own need. Thank You for the forgiveness You provide through Jesus. Renew my love for You, and give me willingness to obey what You have made clear. Teach me to trust You with the results. Amen.

Continuing through the week

Set aside ten to fifteen minutes each day. Read slowly, write a brief response, and pray about one specific action. Return to your next step from page 8 at the end of the week.

Day 1 Trusting the King

Read **Isaiah 6:1** and **2 Chronicles 26:16–21**.

Uzziah's pride shows the limits of human authority. Where have you placed too much confidence in a person, position, or circumstance? Bring that concern to the Lord who remains on His throne.

Day 2 Recovering reverence

Read **Isaiah 6:2–4**.

Notice the seraphim's posture and praise. What truth about God's holiness deserves more of your attention? Let that truth shape the way you read Scripture or worship today.

Day 3 Speaking truthfully

Read **Isaiah 6:5** and **Luke 6:45**.

Consider how you speak when inconvenienced or disappointed. Confess what belongs to you, and ask God to change the heart beneath your words. Take a wise step to correct harm where needed.

Continuing through the week

Day 4 Receiving forgiveness

Read **Isaiah 6:6–7**, **Ephesians 2:8–10**, and **1 John 1:9**.

How does grace change the reason you serve? Thank Jesus for His sufficient sacrifice. If you have been trying to earn His acceptance, bring that burden to Him and rest your trust in His promise.

Day 5 Returning to willing love

Read **Isaiah 6:8–13** and **Revelation 2:1–7**.

Consider Christ's call to remember, repent, and return. Review your next step. What did you do, what remains unfinished, and what help would make faithful follow-through more likely?

At the end of the week: Share one way the Lord's Word has affected your conduct, your confidence in His grace, or your willingness to serve.

Leading the conversation

Our aim is to help people see God clearly, respond honestly to His Word, and take a concrete step of faith. Listen for understanding and invite participation without requiring everyone to disclose personal struggles.

A suggested gathering

Allow 10 minutes for welcome, prayer, and reading **Isaiah 6:1–8**; 40–50 minutes for discussion; and 10–15 minutes for personal response and prayer. Select one application question from each movement. The remaining prompts work well for personal follow-up.

Keeping the passage in context

The vision occurs in the year of Uzziah's death. Follow its movement from God's throne to Isaiah's confession, cleansing, and commission. Read **Isaiah 6:9–13** before the gathering so the group does not mistake willingness for a promise of quick visible success.

Guidance for questions 1 through 3

1. Uzziah has died; the Lord is seated on a throne, exalted, with His robe filling the temple. Keep the contrast grounded in the text without inventing Isaiah's private emotions.
2. God remains sovereign and trustworthy. The vision does not explain the reason for every loss or make every painful event good. Leave room for grief and questions while directing people toward God's character.
3. Responses will vary. Help participants choose a concrete act of trust, such as bringing a recurring concern into prayer or responding patiently to a responsibility they cannot control.

Leader guidance for questions 4 through 6

4. Each seraph has six wings used as the passage describes. They proclaim the Lord's holiness and the earth's fullness of His glory. The doorposts shake and the temple fills with smoke.
5. God's holiness means He is completely pure and distinct from His creation. His goodness makes Him trustworthy, while His character exposes the limits of excusing ourselves through comparison.
6. Look for attentive, realistic responses: reading a passage slowly, reflecting on the truth being sung, or obeying a clear command. Reverence can be expressed through both quiet attention and heartfelt worship.

Explaining the seraphim carefully

The sermon explains that seraphim is plural and seraph is singular, with the name commonly understood as “burning ones.” **Isaiah 6:2** specifies the six wings and their uses; it does not describe feathers, colors, clothing, or flames covering their bodies. Fiery artwork is an illustration of the name. Keep a distinction between the verse's description and an artist's choices. Their covered posture can reasonably be understood as reverence; avoid assigning a hidden doctrine to each wing.

Helping people respond to grace

Guidance for questions 7 through 11

7. Isaiah confesses his own unclean lips and identifies with a people of unclean lips after seeing the King. Personal confession comes into focus; the passage does not provide an inventory of his earlier speech.

8. In **Luke 6:45**, speech expresses what fills the heart. Repentance includes bringing the underlying resentment, pride, dishonesty, or contempt to God, along with changing the words and actions that express it.

9. This question is marked private. Invite voluntary, appropriate sharing. A useful response names a specific wrong and a wise next step. People should take responsibility for their own conduct, not for another person's sin against them.

10. A seraph takes a coal from the altar and touches Isaiah's lips, announcing that his iniquity is removed and his sin dealt with. Cleansing is provided to him. Avoid treating the coal as a technique believers must reproduce.

11. God's grace establishes the basis for service. **Ephesians 2:8–10** presents salvation as God's gift through faith and good works as the life prepared for those He has made new. Ministry activity cannot earn forgiveness.

Leader guidance for questions 12 through 15

12. Receiving forgiveness can coexist with restitution, accountability, rebuilding trust, and appropriate limits on responsibility. Use **1 John 1:9** to point a repentant believer toward God's faithfulness rather than the intensity of personal feelings.

13. Isaiah offers himself after confession and cleansing, before hearing the assignment's full details. His availability grows from the mercy he has received.

14. The commission includes persistent resistance and judgment, with hope beyond it. Faithfulness is not measured solely by immediate response. We may pray earnestly for revival while trusting God's wisdom and timing.

15. Help each participant choose one responsible step consistent with Scripture and existing obligations. Illness, caregiving, work, and limited capacity should be considered honestly. Willingness does not require an unrealistic promise.

Closing with the gospel and prayer

Point people to Jesus, who bore our sins and rose again. **John 12:37–41** connects Isaiah's vision of glory with Christ. Invite those who have not trusted Him to respond in faith and offer further conversation. For believers seeking renewal, encourage confession, confidence in grace, and a specific step of obedience. Ask permission before following up on something personal.

Source: Pastor Kevin Darr, Encountering the Holiness and Grace of God, **Isaiah 6:1–8**, supplied sermon manuscript.