



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

There are four components to a healthy group: Word, prayer, relationships, and reaching out. In this guide, we will study Isaiah 6 using inductive Bible study, which has three components: observation, interpretation, and application.

As the leader of your group, feel free to use whatever parts of this guide most help you do this!

CONNECT BREAK THE ICE AND GET PEOPLE TALKING

- What is something you want to make sure to do before 2023 ends?
- Talk about a time when you were eager to volunteer for a role.
- Discipleship check-in:
 - Have you prayed and read your Bible consistently the past week?
 - Who is someone you're praying to share Jesus with this week, and what's one way you can love them well?

INTRODUCTION

The book of Isaiah can feel like reading a book that is from another world and in some ways that is true. It was written long ago for a different group of people who spoke a different language and were experiencing different social and political problems. But in its pages we will see that God is a work in the midst of the chaos and has a plan not only for the Israelites, but the entire world.

Today we will be studying Isaiah chapter 6, and the centrality of mission to the Christian life.

OBSERVATIONS WHAT DOES THE TEXT SAY?

READ: Isaiah 6:1-13

DISCUSS:

- Describe Isaiah's vision of the throne room.
- What effects will Isaiah's ministry have?

INTERPRETATION WHAT DOES THE TEXT MEAN?

DISCUSS:

- Why does Isaiah respond the way he does to the vision (v.5)? Why was the atonement by a burning coal necessary?
- Read verse 13. God says his discipline will leave only a "holy seed," a "stump," a remnant saved by grace.
 - What is a stump? (Let the group answer first. If helpful to move the discussion along, suggest the following definition of a stump: something that looks dead/hopeless but God preserves as a "remnant," for restoration and transformation)
 - How might this encourage Isaiah as he preaches his message?

APPLICATION WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

DISCUSS:

- In verse 5, Isaiah confesses his unclean lips. In verse 7, his guilt is taken away when a burning coal touches his lips. His mouth is subsequently used for God's ministry.
 - If God were to touch a part of your life with a burning coal to purify it for his mission, what might that be in you?
- Has there ever been a time you cried out "How long, O Lord?" What helped you remain faithful to your calling/mission/ministry?
- Are there stumps where the Lord is sending you/has already sent you?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

As a group leader studying the book of Isaiah could feel daunting and intimidating. Please know that as your staff we are ready and available to help you in any way possible. Two resources that will helpful are the Bible Project and the Gospel Coalitions course on Isaiah. Links to each of them are below and use them as you see fit.

Bible Project resources on the Book of Isaiah

The Gospel Coalitions course on the Book of Isaiah

PRAYER

Praise Jesus who answered God's call ("who will go for us") to be sent into the world for our atonement. Pray for faith to trust in God to preserve and restore stumps in our mission fields.