

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Lord, as we begin our discussion, give us humble hearts like Isaiah to see Your holiness, recognize our need, and receive again the grace of Jesus who bridged the gap we could never cross. Holy Spirit, help us not just understand Your Word, but be convicted by it. Show us what You want us to know and what You want us to do. Give us courage to respond with surrender, saying, "Here am I, send me," and to take the next step of obedience. Amen.

ICE BREAKER

What's something you've read, watched, or heard recently that you needed someone else to explain before it really made sense?

SERMON OVERVIEW



SCAN FOR
SERMON CLIP



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Isaiah's personal encounter with God's holiness transformed his life forever. His words were so precise and profound that they are quoted eighty-five times in the New Testament. At the heart of this message is a vision Isaiah received at a pivotal moment of national uncertainty, a moment when the future felt unclear, and fear was a reasonable response. He saw God seated on His throne, high and exalted, surrounded by angelic beings crying out the holiness of God. When we truly reckon with that holiness, we begin to understand what Isaiah understood: the gap between our humanity and God's perfection is far greater than we tend to assume. We naturally compare ourselves to other people and hope for grace on a curve. But Isaiah's vision reframes the entire conversation. The good news, though, is that the same vision that revealed the gap also revealed the remedy. Isaiah's guilt was removed by God, his sin atoned for. And through acceptance of the truth of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, so is ours. Isaiah's response was immediate and wholehearted: here am I, send me. We join that same journey, from honest reckoning with our need, to the freedom that comes when we let God do what only He can do and also choose the same response, here am I, send me.

READ SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 6:1-8, 52:13-53:12, ACTS 8:26-40

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

- 1) Isaiah is remembered more for what he said than what he did. In your own journey, do you find it easier to be known for bold actions or faithful, consistent words, and what might that reveal about how you understand your calling?
- 2) Isaiah's vision took place "in the year that King Uzziah died," a moment of national grief and political uncertainty. Can you think of a time when God met you in the middle of uncertainty rather than after a situation was resolved?
- 3) The Ethiopian official had traveled a thousand miles seeking God, yet still began his journey home with more questions than answers. How do you respond in seasons when sincere spiritual pursuit seems to yield confusion rather than clarity? Who in your life do you seek for wise biblical counsel?

GROW SPIRITUALLY

4) Pastor Derek suggests that every religion acknowledges a gap between humanity and God, but only Christianity claims that God himself bridges that gap. How does that distinction shape the way you think about salvation, effort, grace, and your relationship with God?

5) Isaiah 53 was written 700 years before Jesus was born, yet the modern Israelites in the video immediately associated it with the New Testament. What does the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy do to your confidence in the reliability and authority of Scripture? How should fulfilled prophecy move us from simply admiring the Bible to reverence and obedience to it?

6) The sermon uses the illustration of a king who absorbs the punishment meant for his daughter to describe what Jesus did on the cross. How does that image change or deepen the way you personally understand the cost of grace?

LIVE GENEROUSLY

7) When Isaiah encountered the holiness of God, his confident declarations of 'woe to you' toward others immediately became 'woe is me.' What does this shift tell us about what happens when we compare ourselves to the holiness of God rather than to other people? What does it look like in daily practice to measure yourself against God's holiness rather than against others?

8) Who in your life has been honestly searching for God? How can you pray for them specifically this week? How might God want you to come alongside them?

9) The sermon closes with an invitation to ask God two questions in silence: 'What do you want me to know?' and 'What do you want me to do?' What answers surfaced for you? What would it look like to actually respond to them this week?

TAKE ACTION

Based on our conversation today, how do you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to take a next step in practical application? Please complete this statement, I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please invite each group member to share their action step, if they have one.

PRAY TOGETHER

Take a few minutes for each person to share a recent joy or praise, as well as something that's weighing on their heart and in need of intercession. Invite someone to pray over these requests. Be sure to share them with everyone in the group so you can continue praying for one another throughout the week.

ENGAGE TOGETHER



Participate in Northview's efforts to help with Flood Relief - Many families across central Indiana have been impacted by recent flooding. We have been moved by how our community has responded to those affected. From the very beginning, our heart has been simple: love our neighbors well and meet people right where they are. The needs are changing daily, and our goal is to ensure every resource we receive gets to the right place at the right time. Click the link above to stay informed, updated, and to get involved!