

The Holiness of God

FCC Life Group Discussion Notes
Part 2: In the "Into the Depths of God" Series of Matthew Rogers
Matthew Rogers Preaching
08-30-26

Opening Prayer

- Thank God for revealing Himself as holy and for making a way for us to come near through Jesus.
- Ask Him to open our eyes this week to see His holiness more clearly and to let that encounter change us.

Ice Breaker

What's one place or experience that felt "too big" or overwhelming the first time you encountered it (like the ocean, a mountain view, or a huge stadium)—and how did it change your perspective?

Key Scripture

Isaiah 6:1-8 (CSB) – Ask a group member to read aloud.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphim were standing above him; they each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth. The foundations of the doorways shook at the sound of their voices, and the temple was filled with smoke. Then I said: Woe is me for I am ruined because I am a man of unclean lips and live among a people of unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies. Then one of the seraphim flew to me, and in his hand was a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with it and said: Now that this has touched your lips, your iniquity is removed and your sin is atoned for. Then I heard the voice of the Lord asking: Who will I send? Who will go for us? I said: Here I am. Send me.

Sermon Summary

When we truly encounter the holiness of God, it changes everything. Isaiah's vision shows us that seeing God as He really is—completely set apart and pure—reshapes how we see Him, how we see ourselves, and how we live. God's holiness both reveals our need and provides the cleansing that frees us to respond with willing obedience.

Suggested points for prayer is given in each prayer section and are up to the discretion of the leader.

Discussion Point 1: Changes How I See God

Scripture: Isaiah 6:3 (CSB) – Ask a group member to read aloud.

And one called to another: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth.

Point Summary:

Holy means set apart—utterly unique and different from everything else. God is not just a slightly better version of us; He is altogether different, the very standard of moral purity. Seeing Him high and lifted up expands our view of who He really is.

Discussion Questions:

1. When you hear “holy, holy, holy,” what picture of God comes to mind? How does that compare with the “manageable” or everyday version of God we sometimes settle for?
2. Where in your life might you need a bigger view of God’s holiness right now?

Discussion Point 2: Changes How I See Myself

Scripture: Isaiah 6:5-7 (CSB) – Ask a group member to read aloud.

Then I said: Woe is me for I am ruined because I am a man of unclean lips and live among a people of unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies. Then one of the seraphim flew to me, and in his hand was a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with it and said: Now that this has touched your lips, your iniquity is removed and your sin is atoned for.

Point Summary:

Standing before a holy God exposes our sin the way bright sunlight reveals stains. Isaiah didn’t compare himself to other people—he saw himself clearly. Yet God didn’t leave him there; He provided cleansing from the altar, pointing us to Jesus who makes the way for unholy people to come near.

Discussion Questions:

1. It’s easy to feel “pretty good” by comparing ourselves to others. What changes when we measure ourselves against God’s holiness instead?
2. How does knowing that God provides the cleansing (not our own effort) affect the way you respond when the Holy Spirit convicts you of something?

Discussion Point 3: Changes How I Live

Scripture: Isaiah 6:8 (CSB) and 1 Peter 1:15-16 (CSB) – Ask a group member to read aloud.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord asking: Who will I send? Who will go for us? I said: Here I am. Send me. But as the one who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; for it is written, Be holy, because I am holy.

Point Summary:

After seeing God, seeing himself, and receiving cleansing, Isaiah's response flips from "Woe is me" to "Here I am. Send me." True holiness is not legalism that pushes people away—it is a distinct, attractive life that draws others to Jesus. We are called to live set apart because we belong to a holy God.

Discussion Questions:

1. What does "Here I am. Send me" look like in ordinary adult life—work, family, friendships, community?
2. Have you ever worried that growing in holiness might make you less approachable? How does Jesus' example (who attracted the "unholy") reshape that fear?

Wrap-Up

Isaiah's encounter moves from the throne, to "Woe is me," to cleansing, to "Send me." A real look at God's holiness enlarges our view of Him, humbles us about ourselves, and frees us to live differently—all because the holy God has made a way for us to come near through Jesus.

Challenge

This week, pray specifically: "God, let me encounter Your holiness." Then watch for one practical place where that encounter invites a change—whether in how you speak, what you pursue, or how you show up for the people around you. Live sent.

Closing Prayer

- Thank God that His holiness does not push us away but, through Jesus, invites us near.
- Ask for courage to respond with "Here I am" in the everyday places He is calling us.
- Pray that our lives would attract others to the holy, gracious God we serve.

Sources used for these notes:

- The full sermon transcript provided by the user (First Christian Church, Warsaw, IN – "The Holiness of God" from the series *Into the Depths of God*).
- Christian Standard Bible (CSB) text of Isaiah 6:1-8, Exodus 15:11, 1 Samuel 2:2, 1 Peter 1:15-16, Ephesians 3:12, and 1 John 1:1-3 (verified via standard online Bible sources for accuracy with the sermon's wording).

Handout

Life Group Handout: Encountering the Holiness of God

(Print or share digitally – fill in as you discuss)

Key Verse to Remember

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies; his glory fills the whole earth. – **Isaiah 6:3 (CSB)**

Three Changes from Isaiah 6

1. Seeing God differently: Holy means _____.
2. Seeing myself differently: God's light reveals _____, but He provides _____.
3. Living differently: From "Woe is me" to _____.

Personal Reflection

- One area where I tend to make God "smaller" or more manageable: _____
- One place the Holy Spirit is gently shining light right now: _____
- One simple way I can say "Here I am" this week: _____

Prayer Prompt for the Week

"God, let me encounter Your holiness so that it changes how I see You, how I see myself, and how I live."