

July 14 Discussion Guide

1. Why do we feel “only God can judge me” gives me an out?
2. When God is “out there” instead of “right here” (“out there” being that you are aware of God, but he does not seem real close or even real in a lot of ways) , we can view God the way we want to, and view ourselves the way we want to. Why do we prefer a God “out there” often instead of “right here”?
3. Read Isaiah 6:1. Describe what you can imagine the scene would have been like to have seen what Isaiah saw?
4. Read Isaiah 6:2-4. Pastor Mark pointed out the word “Lord” in verse 1 is the word “Adonai”, which is a name of God that describes God has being the sovereign King who is in control of all. However, in verse 3, the Seraphim refer to God as “Lord” again, but this word “Lord” is another word in the original language. This word used in verse 3 is “Yahweh” and it conveys this idea that God is unique from anything else, but also He is near. Usually it is used when someone was in the presence of God.
 - a. What is the significance with God being “near”?
 - b. God’s nearness is both scary and comforting. Why?
5. The word “holy” can be a term that eludes many of us. The word Holy means completely other, or completely separate from anything else. When used to describe God, it is a word that is trying to describe God’s unique character of being perfectly pure and unlike anyone else and far above everything else.
 - a. What do WE do with that, with a God that is Holy?
 - b. But why is it important to grapple with it?
6. Read Isaiah 6:5. What jumps out to you in the way that Isaiah reacts to seeing God’s Holiness?
7. Why does God’s holiness expose our issues? Why is this uncomfortable? Why do we need to lean into this instead of push back?
8. Read Isaiah 6:6-7. Our filth (as experienced by Isaiah) is exposed when God goes from “out there” to “right here.” Why is the cross of Jesus so significant in light of God’s Holiness and yet our filth?
9. Read Isaiah 6:8.
 - a. “Here am I, send me” is a reaction statement for Isaiah. How does what Jesus has done on the cross move us to want to be sent to tell others?
 - b. How does God’s Holiness effect the way we communicate about Him to others?