

Sanctified Lips

Isaiah 6:1-13

MEMORY VERSE

ISAIAH 6:1

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

A sheet of white paper or construction paper, scissors, markers, a hole punch and string.

ATTENTION GETTER!

Centipede Follow-the-Leader

Divide your class into three or four teams. Have the students hold the waist of the person in front of them. Choose one team to be the “leader” team. Have the lead team walk around the class and do different things. They may walk three steps forward, two steps sideways, hop or shout something like, “hallelujah!” The object is that the “follower” groups will imitate the same movements. After a short while choose another team to lead.

Have the class sit down in a circle and introduce today’s lesson. Explain that sometimes the Lord may want us to do something for Him. We need to be ready to follow our leader, Jesus. **We should be ready and willing to serve Jesus.**

LESSON TIME!

What does it mean to be ready and willing to serve God? Today we are going to meet a servant of God by the name of Isaiah. Isaiah was a famous prophet. We are going to learn that he was a man who was ready and willing to serve God. He was called by God and was obedient to that call and committed his whole life to serving the Lord.

In this lesson we will learn about being ready and willing to serve God at all times in our lives. God has a very special plan for our lives and we just need to listen for him, by His Spirit and through His Word to know what that plan is. Then we need to be willing to obey. Isaiah was obedient to the call God had on his life and through his life the Lord spoke to His people and to us concerning His Messiah, Jesus Christ. We will be studying those prophecies later. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

ISAIAH 6:1-4

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"

And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

Isaiah was writing about a vision he had had of the Lord during the year that King Uzziah had died. King Uzziah was a king that believed in God but chose to be disobedient. King Uzziah refused to destroy the altars and temples that the people were worshipping at on the high places. Because of his disobedience the Lord struck King Uzziah with leprosy during his reign and King Uzziah had to live in complete isolation until the day of his death.

This is what sin does in our lives when we do not repent and turn to God. We say we believe in God but we are still keeping a part of

the world in our hearts. Our actions are not in line with God's will. We need to examine our hearts to see if there is anything of the world in our hearts, or if we are worshipping things on high places.

The Lord chose to make Himself visible to Isaiah and his vision reveals the majesty of God. Words cannot capture God's great splendor. The seraphim or "burning ones" represent God's holiness.

Whether the Lord reveals Himself in a vision such as Isaiah's or in a still small voice, we are unworthy of His glory and holiness and must always be reverent of His majesty. Isaiah has recorded this vision for us to study so that we can get a glimpse of God's glory. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

ISAIAH 6:5

So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

When we have experienced a vision of God or have heard His voice, we are shown our great sin in comparison to His perfection and purity. When we have an honest vision of who we are apart from God's grace and setting us apart for His plans, we become very humble before the Lord. Apart from the forgiveness found in Jesus Christ, through His perfect sacrifice, we could never stand in the presence of God. But thank the Lord that He provided a way. Even though we are sinners, we have been made clean through the shed blood of Jesus.

Isaiah as he encountered God's vision was full of humility. He knew that not only did he live among disobedience; he was a sinner as well. When he saw the Lord in His splendor Isaiah was only able to see his own wretchedness. We must have a realistic view of ourselves in comparison to God. There is nothing holy, clean or

righteous in us apart from the cleansing blood of Jesus. Isaiah was broken before the Lord and we need to present ourselves in the same manner as Isaiah.

We should desire to serve the Lord because of what He has done in our lives, not because we think we are good enough to be used by Him. The reality is that we are never good enough to be in His presence and used by Him. Anything good that comes out of our lives is all by His great grace! **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

White as Snow!

Ask your class how many of them have heard the worship song “White as Snow.” If you are unfamiliar with it, you may want to research it out before the class. Have a time of discussion about forgiveness and what it means to be cleansed of our sins. The Bible tells us that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all unrighteousness and even though our sins were as scarlet, His blood can make them white as snow (Isaiah 1:18).

In this craft the children will make a snowflake to remind them that we can be made white as snow in Jesus. You will need a sheet of white paper or construction paper, scissors, markers, a hole punch and string. Cut the paper into squares. Have each child take the paper and fold it in half. Then fold in half again and then fold in half a third time. Next have the children make small cuts from the edges as well as in the center. Don’t cut too much so as to have room for writing. Teachers may want to do a practice one at home.

After cutting, open up the paper to reveal the design of the snowflake. Find an edge and have the children write their name and Isaiah 1:18. They can also decorate them with silver glitter. With the hole-punch, punch a hole in one of the corners. Tie string to the hole and the children can now hang up their snowflake for

display. As part of this activity you can sing the “White as Snow” song together as a class.

ISAIAH 6:6-7

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.

And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."

Isaiah was a sinner like you and me and he recognized his sin, spoke of it, and confessed it before the Lord. And the Lord purified Isaiah by touching his lips with the hot coal. God uses fire a lot in the Bible when He speaks of purifying us from sin. The above passage does not say that when the “live coal” (meaning it was hot) touched Isaiah’s lips that it burned, but imagine how it may have felt! This purifying and cleansing is what Jesus did for our sins when He died on the cross. The process of sin being purged from our lives may not be an easy one, but He is faithful to purge us of all our sin when we confess it to Him. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

ISAIAH 6:8

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

Isaiah had seen the Lord; he knew that he needed to be cleansed from his own sin. He was correct in telling God he was unworthy and needed forgiveness. God was ready to cleanse Isaiah immediately and that is how it is for you and me. All we have to do is confess and God will forgive us. Notice that it was God who prepared Isaiah to be used. Isaiah didn’t prepare himself. We can never prepare ourselves to be in a place to be used by God. God

does the preparation in our hearts and then we just respond to Him.

Then after the cleansing the Lord spoke and asked “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” What was Isaiah’s response? Did he turn away from God’s call? Absolutely not, he said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah’s response was immediate and in obedience. This is what we are to do when God calls. We should listen, respond without hesitation, and obey. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

God desires to minister to His people as well as to reach the world. He could have used any means to do it. Why didn’t He just write messages in the sky, or speak with a loud voice? It is amazing that He chose to use people to declare His message of love and salvation to a world that is dying without Jesus. He wanted to send someone and Isaiah responded to His call. God has a plan for our lives. He wants to reach a lost world still today. He is looking for people willing to say, “Here I am, send me.” Maybe God is preparing some of our hearts today to be the ones who are sent over the next several years.

ISAIAH 6:9-10

And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'

"Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed."

God has spoken to Isaiah to go and speak the truth about Him and the disobedience of the people in their idolatry and wickedness. Yet God knows that even through they will hear the truth and see

the Lord's righteousness through Isaiah's life, they will be deaf and blind until they repent and turn from their evil ways.

It is the same for us today. Although we are called to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and of His saving grace there will be those people who refuse to hear and see the truth because of the blindness sin has caused in their lives. What is most important is that we must never compromise the truth in an effort to get someone's attention. God makes it very clear to Isaiah and to each of us today through His Word that the truth must be spoken of regarding sin, forgiveness and the cross of Jesus Christ. Isaiah knew the people were rebellious, yet agreed to heed God's call. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

ISAIAH 6:11-12

Then I said, "Lord, how long?" And He answered: "Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant, The houses are without a man, The land is utterly desolate,

The LORD has removed men far away, And the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

Because of the hardness of the people's hearts, the Lord was telling Isaiah that He would destroy everything. It was for Isaiah to speak and live out the truth. Yet as a chosen prophet from God he was to warn the people what will happen because of their rebellion. In response to Isaiah's question, "Lord, how long?" God does not tell him how many years until the destruction but He does show him all the signs of the desolation. God is going to destroy the people because of their sin.

God wanted the people to turn from their sin, but God doesn't see things the same way we do. He can look into the future and know that His people are going to reject Him. So He can say to Isaiah go

and preach to them, but they won't turn to be healed and eventually they will be judged.

But Isaiah still needed to go. Every person would still be given the choice to follow God or to deny Him and God told Isaiah that the people would not turn from their sin, but that some day judgment would come.

We need to look at our own lives and ask God to search our hearts for hidden sin. Are we willing to listen and obey God's Word? We never want to be like the nation of Israel who refused to turn from their ways. We should always keep our hearts sensitive to the Lord. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

ISAIAH 6:13

But yet a tenth will be in it, And will return and be for consuming, As a terebinth tree or as an oak, Whose stump remains when it is cut down. So the holy seed shall be its stump."

Though there is going to be destruction as a result of the people's sin, God is true to His promise of His plan of redemption by sending the Messiah, and the Messiah will be from the line of David. How will that be if God is going to destroy everything? He told Isaiah, "So the Holy seed shall be its stump." The stump is the root of Jesse and though the land and people will be destroyed, He will spare a tenth, which will be from the root of Jesse. This was a prophecy about the coming Messiah and Isaiah was to speak this truth to the people even though they would continue to turn away.

Have you ever witnessed to someone who did not want to hear the truth of Jesus Christ? Did it mean that you loved them any less? God loves this world so much. But He knows that some people won't turn to Him. But even though that is the case, we still need to be willing to be sent by Him. Who is going to answer God's call today? It could be any of us if we will just listen for Him and then

obey what He tells us to do. **We must be ready and willing to serve God.**

Come Along Tag

God wants us to come along with Him to share the good news of Jesus. You play this game by playing a regular game of tag with one person. Then each time “It” tags someone, that person must join hands or link arms with “It,” but only “It” can tag another student. Play until most of the group has joined “It.”

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to be ready and willing to serve at any time. Pray that the Lord would reveal His will and plans for the children so that they can begin to obey Him, even at a young age. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.