

## When We Worship

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

Isaiah 6:1-8

#### Discussion Questions

1. How do you prepare yourself to worship?
2. For some Christians, to worship simply means going to church on Sunday. However, worship is more than preaching, singing, or even giving. Worship is to live wholeheartedly with God; it is to experience God. Read Isaiah 6:1-8. Just before Isaiah was called to be a prophet, he saw, heard and was changed by an encounter he had when the veil between heaven and earth was pulled back for just a moment and he stood before the throne of God. It revealed God, seated on His throne, who reached down to sinful humanity and raised them up to the heights of heaven so that they might be His voice, to speak to a world blind and deaf to the reality of God's sovereignty, glory, love and grace. How did God in His righteousness and holiness reach down to sinful man? What took place after God reached down to mankind?
3. When we truly worship or when we wholeheartedly live with God and experience Him, three things happen:
  - a. *We encounter the glory of God (v. 1).* King Uzziah was a righteous king who followed the ways of the Lord, but he died, leaving us to wonder what would happen to the nation of Judah. At this time, Isaiah was given a vision to see into the universe as it really is. What did Isaiah see that made him rejoice (v. 1)? Discuss the implications of having God as the King and Lord of your life. When you worship, in what ways are you reminded that God is glorious and still reigns?

b. *We declare the holiness of God (v. 2-3).* When something is repeated in the Scripture, it usually suggests importance. In this passage, *holy* is repeated more than two times. This is the only one of God's attributes that is described in the superlative, emphasizing that God alone is indeed holy. Upon finding himself in the presence of God's holiness, Isaiah cried out that he was "ruined." In recognizing God's holiness, what did Isaiah realize about himself that made him think that he was ruined? How should you react to God who is the King and Lord Almighty when you meet Him to worship? Though Isaiah thought he was undone and condemned because of his sins compared to God's holiness, he discovered God's grace (v. 6-7). How did Isaiah's sin get cleansed? Read 1 John 2:2 and Hebrews 4:16. How do these verses speak the depth of God's grace?

c. *We respond to the call of God (v. 8).* True worship of the Lord Almighty leads to a response of service. You cannot come into God's presence, come into contact with His glory and holiness, experience His cleansing and forgiveness, and remain unmoved, untouched, unchanged. What was Isaiah's response to God's call when God asked, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" How do you respond when you hear the challenge of reaching out to the lost or doing something for God as a response to worship? Does your worship inspire service for the Lord?

### Walk

As you go home from worshipping the Lord with other believers, ask yourself these questions: Have I encountered the glory of God? Have I declared the holiness of God? Am I ready to serve God? Only when you answer yes to all three can you say that you have indeed worshipped.

### Worship & Prayer

*Heavenly Father, You are my holy, righteous, and glorious God. You alone indeed deserve to be worshipped. Thank you Lord that in spite of my sins, Your grace is sufficient to forgive and cleanse me from my unrighteousness. May my life reflect awe and respect for You. May my worship exhibit the glory of Your majesty and holiness. May I respond to your call to serve when I worship You. In Jesus' name. Amen.*