

Nov 17/24 – Small Group Questions - Isaiah 6:1-8 “Behold the Lord”

Read Isaiah 6:1-8; 2 Chronicles 26: 1-15

1. In the year King Uzziah died... Review together the state of affairs in Israel under the reign of Uzziah. What would be the personal and national “mood” in light of Uzziah’s death?
2. What does Isaiah invite us to do when such a mixture of emotions borne of current events come to the surface for us?
3. Read Luke 10:38-42. What is the only necessary thing? What does that tell us about what is central to the heart of God?
4. What does Isaiah’s vision reveal about the nature and character of God?
5. How does this / would this vision shape not only Isaiah but a nation reeling in the aftermath of Uzziah’s death?
6. What do we learn about the nature of repentance from this encounter?
7. Why is it that we run from repentance?
8. The degree of our repentance will be the degree of our cleansing and healing, the more willing we are to name our weakness the more His strength will be operative, the more able we are to admit the sweeter his grace and forgiveness. Discuss
9. The passage ends with Isaiah’s calling. How does this passage clarify the heart of the “Covenant of Vocation” series? How does that shape how we are called to live as the people of God?

For your closing prayer perhaps consider the litany of penitence to guide your group’s response to the holiness of God.

THE LITANY OF PENITENCE

Most holy and merciful Father,

we confess to you, to one another,

and to the whole communion of saints

**in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault
in thought, word, and deed;
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us.

We have not been true to the mind of Christ.

We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, Lord.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness;

the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives.

We confess to you, Lord.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways,

and our exploitation of other people,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our anger at our own frustration,

and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves.

We confess to you, Lord.

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

We confess to you, Lord.

Our negligence in prayer and worship,
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

We confess to you, Lord.

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done:
for our blindness to human need and suffering,
and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For all false judgements,
for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbours and
for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

For our waste and pollution of your creation,
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

Accept our repentance, Lord.

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

Hear us, Lord, for your mercy is great.