

worship matters



South Sub Church

March 15, 2026

Seeing God, Seeing Ourselves

Isaiah 6:1-8 (NLT)

It was in the year King Uzziah died that I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne, and the train of his robe filled the Temple. ² Attending him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³ They were calling out to each other,

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven’s Armies!

The whole earth is filled with his glory!”

⁴ Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke. ⁵ Then I said, “It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.” ⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷ He touched my lips with it and said, “See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven.” ⁸ Then I heard the Lord asking, “Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?” I said, “Here I am. Send me.”

Sermon Summary:

Worship is not something we watch. Worship is something we bring. In this five-week journey through Scripture, we’ll rediscover worship as the overflow of hearts captured by Jesus. We’ll rediscover worship as our whole-life response to Jesus - shaped by who He is and what He has done. We’ll see worship move from the heart into visible expression: love, repentance, celebration, surrender, and daily obedience.

5 fun, non-threatening Ice Breaker questions:

1. What’s the most awe-inspiring place you’ve ever been (mountains, stadium, ocean, big city, etc.)?
2. If you could instantly learn one skill (music, language, cooking, carpentry, etc.), what would you choose?
3. What’s one sound that gets your attention immediately (alarm, a baby laughing, thunder, a chant, etc.)?
4. If you had a personal “theme song” that played when you walked into a room, what kind of music would it be?
5. What’s something small that reliably helps you reset when you’re stressed (walk, coffee, music, quiet, texting a friend, etc.)?

10 Objective Bible study questions (observation):

1. What time marker does Isaiah give for when this vision happened? (v. 1)
2. What does Isaiah see, and where is the Lord positioned? (v. 1)
3. What beings are present in the vision, and what do they do with their wings? (v. 2)
4. What are the seraphim saying to one another? (v. 3)
5. What happens in the environment as they call out (what shakes, what fills the room)? (v. 4)

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6. How does Isaiah respond verbally to what he sees and hears? (v. 5)
7. What does Isaiah say about himself, and what does he say about the people? (v. 5)
8. What does one seraph do with a burning coal, and where does it come from? (v. 6)
9. What does the seraph touch, and what two things does he declare are removed? (v. 7)
10. After Isaiah is cleansed, what voice does he hear, what question is asked, and how does Isaiah respond? (v. 8)

7 Interpretive Questions (meaning):

1. Why might Isaiah emphasize that this happened “in the year King Uzziah died”? What might that signal about instability, leadership, or transition? (v. 1)
2. What does the repeated “Holy, holy, holy” communicate about God’s character and difference from everything else? (v. 3)
3. What might the shaking foundations and smoke symbolize about God’s presence and power? (v. 4)
4. Why does Isaiah’s first response focus on his speech (“I am a man of unclean lips”) and the speech of his people? What might “lips” represent? (v. 5)
5. What is the significance of the coal coming from the altar, and what does that suggest about how cleansing/forgiveness happens? (vv. 6–7)
6. Why does cleansing come before calling/commission (“Whom should I send?”)? What does that order teach? (vv. 7–8)
7. What does Isaiah’s “Here I am. Send me” reveal about readiness, surrender, and identity after encountering God? (v. 8)

7 Application questions (life response):

1. When you think about God, do you more naturally picture Him as comforting, distant, demanding, holy, welcoming—why?
2. Isaiah’s encounter produces both awe and honesty. What helps you be genuinely honest with God about your sin, fear, or shortcomings?
3. “Unclean lips” can point to words, habits, or inner life. Where do you most need God’s cleansing—speech, attitudes, thought life, integrity, relationships?
4. What are some “false anchors” you cling to when things feel unstable (success, control, approval, money, routines)? How does Isaiah 6 re-center you?
5. What would it look like for you to practice “holy attention” this week—creating space to notice God (silence, Scripture, worship, prayer walk)?
6. God’s question is, “Whom should I send?” not “Who is qualified?” Where might God be inviting you to say “yes” even if you feel unqualified?
7. If you said “Here I am—send me,” what is one concrete step you could take in the next 7 days (serve, reconcile, share faith, join a team, encourage someone, give, pray)?