



# DISCERNING GOD'S CALL

ISAIAH

Isaiah 6:1-8

## BACKGROUND:

The book of Isaiah spans the time from the end of the nation of Judah, into their exile in Babylon, ending with the return to the Promised Land. In Isaiah we hear words interpreting current events in light of God's work in the world. We experience despair and hope, judgment and mercy, history and prophecy. Isaiah speaks of a Suffering Servant who would save God's people. We know that Servant to be Jesus.

In Isaiah chapter 6, Isaiah received God's call to serve.

## SCRIPTURE:

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.'

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'



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- How do the people in the story hear God's call to them?
- How open are they to God's call?
- What might this passage say to our community of faith?