



### LESSON 1 ISAIAH

#### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Calls People to Be His Messengers

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 6

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** The prophet Isaiah has a vision of God's throne room. Isaiah recognizes God's holiness and his own sinfulness, but God cleanses him and calls Isaiah to be His messenger.

**WORD OF WONDER:** God has said, "I will never leave you. I will never desert you." —Hebrews 13:5b

#### CURIOSITY

#### BELIEF

#### FAITH

- Welcome Question: What is the strangest thing you have ever seen?
- Curiosity Questions
- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time
- Word of Wonder: Hebrews 13:5b
- Word of Wonder Activity
- LARGE GROUP
- Responding in Worship: I Share God's Message



Victory Elementary Spotify playlist

### INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Calls People to Be His Messengers

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 6

**WORD OF WONDER:** Hebrews 13:5b

Do you remember when you signed up to lead kids? There must have been something that compelled you to go through a process to be in the position you are today, and there undoubtedly continues to be a reason that you come back to delivering God's message to kids again and again.

It may have been a nudge from the Holy Spirit during a compelling announcement or guilt from a shorthanded staff person. Maybe someone saw something in you and tapped you on the shoulder to serve, and that called out something in you that you had never considered before. Regardless of the specifics, you responded to a call.

Read Isaiah 6. It's a wild scene. But at the heart, it's about God calling a person to be a messenger to the leaders of Jerusalem and Judah. Isaiah accepts the calling to bring hope to these leaders in spite of the painful truth about judgment because he believes in God's promises.

Whatever it was that compelled you to start, God has called you to share His message of love—to believe that God's Word and the promises He has made are true and must be shared with the next generation. Though there are likely weeks when you feel like you're not worthy—or possibly just not prepared, God is with you, and His Holy Spirit will speak through you to deliver His message.

—**Courtney Wilson**

Children's Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

Isaiah means “Yahweh is salvation.” The prophet was probably born and educated in Jerusalem. There is some indication he was related to King Uzziah since he had access to the court and was deeply concerned with leadership.

**WHAT?**

King Uzziah died at a difficult time in Israel’s history as they were under threat from foreign invaders. God intervenes and provides His people with a messenger through a vision. He calls Isaiah to speak on His behalf, and Isaiah becomes God’s prophet.

**WHERE?**

In Isaiah 6:1, we are told that Isaiah’s vision takes place in the “temple.” This may refer to the physical temple in Jerusalem, but it could also refer to Isaiah being transported in his vision to the temple of God in heaven.

**WHEN?**

Isaiah lived during the eighth century BC. The death of King Uzziah was around 740 BC, and shortly after, Assyria began its assault on the Northern Kingdom of Israel. By 722 BC, the capital city of Israel, Samaria, was conquered by Assyria.

**CONNECTING TO GOD’S BIG STORY**

Isaiah couldn’t cleanse himself of his sin, so God cleansed him and made him able to stand in the presence of the Holy God. Jesus gives of Himself on the cross to cleanse all who trust in Him so they too can be with God.

### Small Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Calls People to Be His Messengers

**SCRIPTURE:** Isaiah 6

**WORD OF WONDER:** Hebrews 13:5b

### Pre-Service Connection (15–20 min)

**RESOURCES:** [Coloring Page](#), whiteboard, poster paper, or butcher paper, writing utensils  
Small group leaders should be seated in place in their small groups 20 minutes prior to service time. Have play stations with various board games, activities, or use games from the extra Games & Activities Guide to keep children occupied and engaged WITH you. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room - you should be an active participant with them!

Learn the kids names, and make sure they all know yours too!

Warmly welcome new friends, and introduce them to your group.

*Allow quieter kids who don't engage with the board games to color. Involve them in the curiosity questions.*

#### As kids arrive..

Invite them to write/draw the answer to the Welcome Question: on the designated board:

**“What is the strangest thing you have ever seen?”** ” Set out sheets of paper and colored pencils.

#### While kids are playing in their opening activity groups..

Pose the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

- **Have you ever shared important news with somebody? When?**
- **When was a time you felt overwhelmed or scared?**

**\*\*NEW!!** Large Group leaders will now lead an opening game or activity 10 minutes before service begins. It is very important that you are with your groups and ready to participate with them!

### Small Group Begins

After the Opening Activity, Large Group Leader will begin small group time by reading the Welcome Question aloud and inviting everyone to open their Bibles and begin.

## Small Group Discussion: Younger Kids 5–8 min

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid), *God's Unlikely Helpers Sheets* (1 per SG)

Invite kids to open their Bibles to Isaiah 6. Let them know that this will be close to the middle of their Bibles. Isaiah is a long book of the Bible in the section with all the prophets. Give kids this background: "Long after King David and King Solomon, many of God's people began to forget about God and His good ways. As their faith in God weakened, so did their nation. Eventually, Judah was conquered by the Babylonians, and God's people were taken far from their home, forced to live as exiles in a land that belonged to other people. But this was not unexpected or hopeless. God sent messengers to His people to warn them of the consequences for their actions and to remind them that God would forgive them and bring them back to their land if they chose to follow Him again."

Read *Isaiah 6:1–13* aloud. Then discuss the following:

- Who did Isaiah see in his vision?
- Where was God sitting when Isaiah saw Him?
- What did the seraph put on Isaiah's lips?
- What does it mean that God is holy?
- Why do you think Isaiah volunteered to be God's messenger?
- What are some ways you can share God's love with others?

**God is holy—He is perfect and set apart. He is willing to make us holy too. God called Isaiah to be His messenger, and He gives us opportunities to share His love with others. Let's take some time to pray for people in our lives who we can share God's love with.**

## Prayer Time: Younger Kids

Invite kids to gather in a circle and take time for them to name or describe people in their lives who they can share God's love with. Invite them to pray aloud for their friends and family, and close by thanking God for calling people to be His messengers.

**Leader Tip:** Is seraphim just another name for angels? The word *angel* comes from the Greek word for "messenger," and many Christians think of *angel* as shorthand for any of God's heavenly servants. However, in the Hebrew text of the Old Testament, the word *seraphim* (called *seraphs* in some translations) means "flame ." Unlike the messengers of God mentioned in the New Testament, seraphim are explicitly said to have wings (like the cherubim, another group of heavenly, winged servants mentioned multiple times throughout the Old Testament).

## Small Group Discussion: Older Kids 8–12 min

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid),

Invite kids to open their Bibles to Isaiah 6. Let them know that this will be close to the middle of their Bibles. Isaiah is a long book of the Bible in the section with all the prophets. Give kids this background:

**Turn to Page 3 of this guide and help kids understand the context of this passage.**

**Ask three kid volunteers to read Isaiah 6:1–13 aloud. The first volunteer can read verses 1–4, the second can read verses 5–8, and the third can read verses 9–13. Then, discuss the following:**

- What is a seraph? What were the seraphs saying over and over?
- Why was Isaiah upset in his vision?
- What question did God ask?
- What do you think it means to be holy?
- How did Isaiah have his guilt taken away?
- How does God take our guilt away?

God took Isaiah's guilt away and called him to share a difficult message of truth with God's people. God invites us to be holy too, and we can be! When we trust Jesus and what He did on the cross to save us, we become a part of God's family and God sees us as holy. We might not be messengers like Isaiah, but as God's holy kids, we get to share the important message of God's love with others.

## Prayer Time: Older Kids

Invite the kids to partner up and spend time praying for each other. They might pray that God would help them live His good way at school and home. They might pray for people in their lives who they can share God's love with. And they might pray that they would have boldness to be messengers of God's love. Close the prayer time by praying aloud for the group.

**Leader Tip:** For Older Kids. As kids get older, it feels harder to stand out or be different, especially when it comes to faith. Acknowledge this truth with them, letting them know that you understand, and that God strengthens us to share His love with others.

## WORD OF WONDER

God has said, “I will never leave you.  
I will never desert you.”

—Hebrews 13:5b (NIV)

### Word of Wonder

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid), **Word of Wonder poster (1 per SG)**

**“The Word of Wonder for the God with Us series is Hebrews 13:5b. This verse talks about how God is always with us. Isn’t it amazing that our holy God is with us and invites us to share His love with others? Let’s read the Word of Wonder together.”**

Ask kids to open their Bibles to Hebrews 13:5b. Invite the kids to read it aloud together. Encourage them to emphasize certain words like *never* and *you* as they read it aloud together again. Then, ask everyone to read it loudly together one last time.

**Leader Tip:** Let kids know that the Word of Wonder is only the second part of verse 5, which is why it is labeled “5b.” If you were learning the first part of verse 5, it would say “5a.” Sometimes verses get labeled this way to make it easier to locate and memorize them.

Gather kids to talk about these questions:

- **How does it make you feel to know that God will never ever leave you?**
- **God is with you! How can this truth help as you can share His story and love with others?**

### Word of Wonder Activity

**SUPPLIES:** scissors (prep only)

**RESOURCES:** **Word of Wonder Sheet NIV (1 per SG)**

Before kids arrive, print the Word of Wonder Sheet NIV and cut out the words.

Hand out the words from the verse to kids. They should each hold their word and look at what it is, but not share their word with anyone else. If there are more kids in your group than there are words, have some kids pair up with the same word. If there are more word slips than there are kids, give some kids more than one.

Invite everyone to close their eyes tightly. No peeking! Choose one kid and quietly escort her out of the room to wait right outside the door or hide her somewhere in the room. (If escorting her outside the room, be sure to leave the door open and station an adult volunteer at the door where he can see the kid in the hall and everyone in the room.)

After she is in place, invite the kids to open their eyes. Let them know that one of the words of the verse is missing (along with one of their friends!). Encourage the kids to use their words to put the verse together on the floor. Then, invite them to figure out which word (and which kid!) is missing. Once they’ve figured it out, call the missing kid in to complete the verse. Invite everyone to say it together. Play a few rounds, hiding a new kid/word each time.



## PAUSE for Large Group time, then continue...

### Responding in Worship: I Share God's Message

**SUPPLIES:** pens or pencils, coloring utensils

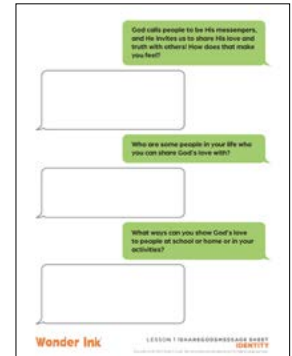
**RESOURCES:** [ishareGodsMessage Sheet \(1 per SG\)](#), [Notes page \(back of coloring sheet\)](#), [God with Us Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

"God showed Isaiah an amazing vision of His glory and holiness. All day, every day, God is worshiped on His throne. He is worthy of it! What's incredible is that although Isaiah was sinful, God washed away his sin and invited Isaiah to be His messenger. God told Isaiah to share truth with people, even when they weren't willing to listen.

When we trust Jesus, God washes us of our sin. While we are not messengers in the same way Isaiah was, God invites us to share His love and truth with others. He never leaves us alone; He strengthens us through His Holy Spirit."

Let's think about ways we can share the important message of God's love with the people in our lives.

Bring out the [ishareGodsmessage sheet](#) and a pen or pencil. Set coloring utensils out so kids can easily access them, and invite kids to find a quiet spot in the room. Read through the [ishareGodsMessage Sheet](#) together. Work together and spend a few minutes writing or drawing their answers to the prompts in the response bubbles. If you have younger kids, you may need to get it started to help them come up with ideas and reread the words on the sheet as needed. Invite kids to use the Notes and Questions sections to write or draw their own answers and reflections from the story.



#### Make It Inclusive!

Some kids don't like writing activities or have learning differences that make writing more difficult. Encourage them to use the sheet to draw emoticons that represent their answers or even just talk through their thoughts with you or another leader.

After everyone has had some time, invite the kids to share their thoughts with one other person. End by praying for the kids and lifting up those they thought of during this response time.