

Sermon-based small groups connect the week to the weekend!

Dig deeper into the talk each week, while getting connected, cared for and known. Challenge yourself to see how the message actually makes sense and applies to your everyday life and do it with people just like you to support you on your journey.

Message Info: The Holiness of God, 1/22/23 - Understanding God's holiness is key to knowing Him. Our culture has a tendency to downplay who God is; He's a genie, a myth, or some distant entity we could never hope to understand. Since we aren't equal to God, it can be challenging to view Him accurately. Let's take a renewed look at God and His defining characteristics. (*Passages: Isaiah 6:1-8*)

Discussion Questions: Take your time and dig into these questions.

Think of God. What comes to your mind first? Do you think of His incredible love or mercy? Or do you think of Him as a judge to be feared? Is He primarily a lifeline when you are in need?

Read Isaiah 6:1-4. What sticks out to you about these passages? Why?

In this account of Isaiah's vision, we read God's throne is high, and his robe or train fills the temple, which speaks to His victories. The imagery paints a powerful picture of being in the midst of God. Take note of the song the seraphim (who never leave God's presence) are singing. Out of everything that could be said about God, they emphasize His holiness. What do these passages make you think about God's presence?

Continue reading Isaiah 6:5-8. What is Isaiah's reaction to the vision?

His response is a kind of terror; a sudden self-awareness and conviction. He was overwhelmed and humbled by the presence of God. The fire of God was applied to him, and his sin was burnt away. God's holiness changed him, and he was willing to serve wholeheartedly. Without God's holiness, His love would be indulgence, His mercy - weakness, His wrath - madness, and His power - tyranny. God is everything we need, but His holiness dictates and controls all attributes of His character.

Pray daily for a fresh vision of God's holiness. Allow God's holy fire of forgiveness to cleanse you today!

Group Challenge: Adopt Sch. Haven or the Tremont Food Pantry. Collect some food to help support these amazing groups. Bring them to your next group. (Leaders contact Ruth - ruth.e.torres0519@gmail.com for more info!)

