



BIG IDEA

God is Holy, which means He is set apart, and He has called us to be set apart too.

BIBLE

Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Peter 1:15-16

ABOUT THIS WEEK

God is unlike anyone or anything else. He's perfect, pure, and powerful. When Isaiah saw God's holiness, it made him realize his need for forgiveness—and God gave it! God calls us to live differently because He is different.

SERIES INTRODUCTION

- Hey everyone! This week we are starting a series called "God is _____."
 - And that blank is doing A LOT of work here, because if we were to ask everyone in the room how they would fill in that blank, I'm sure we'd get almost 100 different answers.
 - As a matter of fact, turn to someone sitting next to you and tell them how you would fill in that blank.
 - There are some people with good, true words to put there. But I also realize that some of us may have wrong words that we would put there.
 - But the beauty of God and His Word is that He loves you so much that He wants to reveal who He is directly to you through His Word.
- For the next 4 weeks, we're going to let God speak for Himself. We're going to look through the pages of Scripture to see how the Word of God describes the Heart of God, because **SLIDE – GOD WANTS TO BE KNOWN.**
- So let's get started! But first I want to ask you a question...

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

- Have you ever had a moment that completely left you speechless?
 - Maybe it was standing on the edge of the Grand Canyon, or seeing your favorite band perform live, or watching the ocean at night when it feels endless. There's something about moments like that—they quiet you. They stop you in your tracks.

SPEAKER NOTE: If you have a story of a breathtaking or awe-filled moment, share it briefly here. Maybe even show a photo on the screen.

- The Bible describes people having similar moments—but not with nature or celebrities—with God Himself. Moments where people encounter His presence and can't even find the words to describe it. Every single time, one word rises above the rest: holy.
 - **SLIDE – GOD IS HOLY**
- When the Bible says God is holy, it means He's completely set apart—in a category all His own.
 - **SLIDE – HOLY = SET APART**
- He's not just a better version of us. He's entirely different.
 - He's pure when everything else is mixed.
 - He's perfect when everything else is flawed.
 - He's steady when everything else is unstable.
- That's what Isaiah discovered in **SLIDE - Isaiah 6:1-8**, when he saw a vision of God sitting on His throne surrounded by angels calling out:
 - "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory."
- Imagine that scene—the throne, the glory, the weight of His presence. Isaiah isn't high-fiving angels; he's undone. He realizes how small, sinful, and fragile he is before the perfection of God.
- But that's not the end of the story.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

- Here's why this matters: **If God is holy, sin can't exist in His presence.**
 - That's a problem because, well, that's all of us.
 - Romans 3:23 says, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
- Sin isn't just the bad stuff we do; it's the brokenness inside us that separates us from God.
 - It's the pride, selfishness, and hidden parts we don't want anyone to see. And because God is just and pure, He can't just pretend it doesn't exist.

SPEAKER NOTE: Pause here for reflection. You could say, "Think about that for a second—if everything wrong and selfish and hidden in your life were suddenly brought into the light of perfection—what would that feel like?"

- That realization wrecked Isaiah. He said, "Woe to me, I am ruined." But then—something beautiful happens.
 - God sends an angel to touch Isaiah's lips with a burning coal and says, "Your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."
- God doesn't just expose Isaiah's sin—He forgives it.
- And that's what He did for us through Jesus.

SLIDE – GOD MAKES US HOLY THROUGH JESUS

- Jesus lived the holy, perfect life we never could. He took our sin—every bit of it—and exchanged it for His righteousness.
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- At the cross, the holiness of God and the grace of God collided, and the result is mercy.
- Because of Jesus, holiness isn't something that pushes us away; it's something that pulls us in.
- That's what Peter means when he says,
 - "Be holy, because I am holy." (1 Peter 1:16)
- He's not saying, "Be perfect." He's saying, "Live differently, because you belong to a God who's different."

SPEAKER NOTE: You might say: "You're about to step into a world that's going to tell you to blend in, to do what everyone else does, to make your own truth. But God's call on your life is to live set apart—to reflect His character even when no one else does."

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

- So how do we respond to a holy God who's shown us this kind of grace?
- **SLIDE – WORSHIP HIM**
 - When Isaiah realized who God was, his first response was worship:
 - "Here I am, send me."
 - Worship isn't just singing songs; it's surrendering your whole life. It's choosing to honor God in your attitude, your work, your decisions, and your relationships.
- **SLIDE – TRUST HIM**
 - If God is holy, it means He's consistent. He's not unpredictable or unstable.
 - You can trust His boundaries, His timing, and His Word—even when you don't understand them.
 - For high schoolers, this means trusting God when the future feels unclear—college decisions, relationships, calling—because His character doesn't change with your circumstances.
- **SLIDE – LIVE SET APART**
 - Holy doesn't mean "better than." It means "different for a purpose." It's the decision to say, "I'm not going to compromise who God's called me to be just to fit in with people who don't even know who they are."

SPEAKER NOTE: Offer a personal example or a "contrast" story here—someone who chose conviction over comfort.

- You don't have to be perfect to be holy. You just have to follow the One who is.

Closing

- Each morning this week, before grabbing your phone, take five seconds to pray: "God, You're holy—and I want to live like You today."
 - Then look for one way to live differently—how you speak, who you sit with, or what you give your attention to.
 - Because holiness isn't about distance from the world; it's about **closeness to God**.
- **SLIDE – GOD'S HOLINESS DOESN'T PUSH US AWAY; IT PULLS US CLOSER.**
 - God's holiness doesn't crush you—it calls you.
 - He's the only one big enough to expose your sin and still love you at the same time.

