

## **life groups' sermon guide**

### **Lord Almighty**



*Life Groups exist at Kingsway to provide authentic relationships for spiritual growth, caring for one another, and reaching out to the unchurched.*

Items needed: white board/markers or paper/pen

#### **Get Started:**

One year at church camp, Counselor Danny won the “popularity award” like no other. The junior high students loved hanging out with him – even when he was correcting them, yelling at them, or joking with them. Why? He took the time to assign each of his campers a very unique nickname. Names like “old man”, “frog”, “hair lip”, knucklehead”, “string bean”, “speedster”. . . names I wouldn’t enjoy, but those jr high boys loved! He gave them a special identity: only HIS cabin had new names that week – and soon, all the campers called them by their special names. Those names reflected something Danny had learned about those boys; they embraced something special and unique, and shouted it out for the whole world to know – well, at least the people at that week of church camp.

The same is true for God’s many names. We’re getting ready to dive into a series of messages that will focus on some of God’s many names. God’s names reflect His character and attributes.

Q: Let’s take a minute here to list as many as we can:

*Encourage your group to shout out as many names of God as they can. Make a list on the board – continue going as long as the names are coming pretty easily.*

#### **Get the Scoop:**

Our focus today is on God’s character/attribute, and name, “Lord Almighty.”

Read Isaiah 6:1-8.

Q: Describe the setting we find here

Q: What names does Isaiah use for God in this passage?

Q: Who is shouting “Holy Holy Holy is the Lord Almighty?” in this scene?

Q: Check out John 12:41. Who is this who is sitting on the throne?

The Lord Almighty was overwhelming, His might beyond anything Isaiah had ever seen before. But, it’s not the first time His glory had overwhelmed a place like this. We find in several other places in God’s word a description of God’s glory and might filling or taking over an empty place.

*Divide your group into smaller groups, and assign a passage to each.*  
Exodus 19:16-20, Exodus 33:7-11, Exodus 40:34-35

- Q: How was God's glory and might seen in this passage?
- Q: What did His glory/might fill and/or cover?
- Q: How did His might/glory affect the people who saw it?

### **Dig In:**

We're going to take some time to look at Isaiah's response to the Lord Almighty. But, first, let's make sure we understand the setting – let's make sure we understand the empty place with which Isaiah was wrestling when he saw the Lord Almighty.

Read Isaiah 6:1a.

- Q: What had happened that year, historically speaking?

King Uzziah's death would have been seen as a national emergency and crisis. After reigning 52 years (see 2 Chronicles 26), Uzziah's death came at the same time that the balance of power in the Middle-East began shifting to a new ruler. The fact that a new power was emerging, and Judah's ruler was dead, presented a real fear to many in Judah. Isaiah's fear of what would happen to his home land was very real. It was in this time of fear that he came face-to-face with the Lord Almighty. There is nothing that prepares a person better for facing times of emptiness, crisis, and tragedy than getting a clear vision of who God is and what His person and works are compared to the frightening issues of the day.

We've looked at God's glory and might and His presence in the temple. Now let's look at Isaiah's response. Read Isaiah 6:4-5.

- Q: What was Isaiah's immediate response to God's glory?
- Q: When has God's might/power affected you in such a great way?

Check out Isaiah 6:6-7

The Lord Almighty provided the cleansing for Isaiah's sin. He creates a new heart in Isaiah. Just as we find Him creating something from nothing in Genesis, we find Him creating new from emptiness in our own hearts.

Isaiah's experience w/ this cleansing paints a beautiful picture of the way God has cleansed us from sin. *For further study see: Romans 3:21-25, Hebrews 10, I John 4:10.)*

Look at Isaiah 6:8.

- Q: What was Isaiah's response to the Mighty God?

Isaiah didn't ask for details, check with his friends, or stop and ponder. His *obedience* was in response to:

God's glory – He saw the Lord Almighty

God's cleansing – He realized his sinful state and knew God was the only answer

### **Take It Home**

Q: What principles/lessons for life do you derive from Isaiah's response to the Lord Almighty's presence?

Q: What is God calling you to do for Him?

Q: How does your response compare to Isaiah's response?

Q: When is the last time you've felt God's presence and glory in an overwhelming way?

Q: How does Isaiah's experience challenge your thinking about your own response to the Lord Almighty's glory?

Q: How can your group pray for you this week as you consider what the Lord Almighty might be creating in you or calling you to do? *(Divide into pairs/small groups to pray for each other as time allows.)*