

# Sanctified Lips

Isaiah 6:1-13

## MEMORY VERSE

ISAIAH 6:1

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

A sheet of white paper or construction paper, scissors, markers, a hole punch and string.

## ATTENTION GETTER!

### Centipede Follow-the-Leader

Divide your class into three or four teams. Have the students hold the waist of the person in front of them. Choose one team to be the “leader” team. Have the lead team walk around the class and do different things. They may walk three steps forward, two steps sideways, hop or shout something like, “hallelujah!” The object is that the “follower” groups will imitate the same movements. After a short while, choose another team to lead.

Ask the class to sit down in a circle and introduce today’s lesson. The Lord may call us to do something for Him. We need to be ready to follow our leader, Jesus. **We should be ready and willing to serve Jesus.**

## LESSON TIME!

Isaiah was a prophet. He was called to be a faithful witness during a time that the nation Israel was in rebellion. Though Isaiah was keenly aware of his own sinfulness and unworthiness, God cleansed and purified, prepared, and called Him to be His instrument. **Let us be ready and willing to serve God!**

## ISAIAH 6:1-4

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"

And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

Isaiah wrote about a vision he had of the Lord during the year that King Uzziah died. King Uzziah was a great king that believed in God and brought prosperity to Israel; but in his later years, he chose to be disobedient; he refused to destroy the altars and temples built on high places where the people worshipped. Because of his disobedience, the Lord struck King Uzziah with leprosy. As a result, he lived in complete isolation until the day of his death. The sad end of this once great king should remind us that disobedience to God brings consequences.

The Lord chose to make Himself visible to Isaiah and his vision reveals the majesty of God. Words cannot capture God's great splendor. The seraphim or "burning ones" represent God's holiness.

## ISAIAH 6:5

So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

Isaiah's encounter with God filled him with humility. Seeing God in His splendor, Isaiah saw his own wretchedness. Looking around at people, we may convince ourselves that we look pretty good; but a real encounter with God will always cause us to see ourselves in a true light. No man who has truly seen God can be proud. There is nothing holy, clean, or righteous in us apart from the cleansing blood of Jesus. We can all agree with Isaiah, "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips."

Isaiah not only saw himself in a different light—as a sinner—he realized he was dwelling among a sinful people.

## White as Snow!

Ask your class how many of them have heard the worship song "White as Snow." If you are unfamiliar with it, you may want to research it out before the class. Have a time of discussion about forgiveness and what it means to be cleansed of our sins. The Bible tells us that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all unrighteousness and even though our sins were as scarlet, His blood can make them white as snow (Isaiah 1:18).

In this craft the children will make a snowflake to remind them that we can be made white as snow in Jesus. You will need a sheet of white paper or construction paper, scissors, markers, a hole punch, and string. Cut the paper into squares. Ask each child to take the paper and fold it in half. Then fold in half again and then fold in half a third time. Next, ask the children to make small cuts

from the edges as well as in the center. Do not cut too much—you need room for writing. Teachers may want to do a practice one at home.

After cutting, open up the paper to reveal the design of the snowflake. Find an edge and have the children write their name and Isaiah 1:18. They may want to decorate them with silver glitter. With the hole-punch, punch a hole in one of the corners. Tie string to the hole and the children can now hang up their snowflake for display. As part of this activity, you can sing the “White as Snow” song together as a class.

### ISAIAH 6:6-7

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.

And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."

Isaiah was a sinner like you and me. He recognized his sin and confessed it before the Lord. The Lord purified Isaiah by touching his lips with the hot coal. God often uses fire in the Bible when He speaks of purifying us from sin. The passage does not say that when the “live coal” (meaning it was hot) touched Isaiah’s lips, it burned; but, imagine how it may have felt!

Jesus took all our sins when He died on the cross, so we would be cleansed and purified through faith in Him. The work of cleansing is God’s work. We, like Isaiah, need only to acknowledge our sin to receive forgiveness, cleansing, and purifying. It is God who cleanses and it is God who changes us into what He wants us to be.

## ISAIAH 6:8

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

Upon his acknowledgement and confession of sin, God cleansed and purified Isaiah. But, His work did not stop there. God desired to use Isaiah as His instrument. Isaiah dwelt among "a people of unclean lips." God would use Isaiah as His faithful witness to them.

As we confess our sins, it is the work of God to cleanse and purify us. He then desires to prepare us to be His instrument. This, too, is God's work and not ours. In Ephesians 2:10 we read, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Just as Isaiah did not prepare himself, we can never prepare ourselves to be in a place to be used by God. God does the preparation in our hearts and we just respond to Him.

The Lord spoke and asked, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" What was Isaiah's response? God had prepared Isaiah's heart, and his yearning was to do God's pleasure. His response was without hesitation--he said, "Here am I! Send me." God has a plan and purpose for each of us. May we yield to the work of God as he prepares our hearts and may we respond to God's call without hesitation! **Let us be ready and willing to serve God!**

God desires to minister to His people as well as to reach the world. He can use any means to do it. Why doesn't God just write messages in the sky or speak with a loud voice? God has given us the privilege of responding to His call and being His instrument to serve those around us and to reach the world with His message of love and salvation. God is looking for people willing to say, "Here am I, send me."

### ISAIAH 6:9-10

And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.'

"Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed."

God spoke to Isaiah to go and speak the truth, confronting a disobedient people who were steeped in idolatry and wickedness. God would be faithful to speak through Isaiah even though He knew His people would not listen. Isaiah would be His witness among them.

Although we are called to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ and His saving grace, there will be those people who refuse to hear and see the truth because of the blindness sin has caused in their hearts. We are responsible to be a faithful witness, reaching out and giving people an opportunity to respond. We are not responsible for whether or not they receive the message we deliver. **Let us be ready and willing to serve God!**

### ISAIAH 6:11-12

Then I said, "Lord, how long?" And He answered: "Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant, The houses are without a man, The land is utterly desolate,

The LORD has removed men far away, And the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

Because of the hardness of the people's hearts, the Lord would destroy everything. Yet, as a faithful witness, Isaiah was commissioned to speak and live out the truth. As a chosen prophet from God, he was to warn the people of what would happen as a consequence of their continued rebellion.

How faithful God is! God is all-knowing, and He knew the people would not respond; yet, in His love, He would be faithful to call, to warn, and to give them opportunity up until the very end. The Bible says that God is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

How tragic that God was lovingly speaking and warning His people, but they would not turn and let God heal them. How do we respond to God's truth? We would do well to always examine our hearts. Do we hear, see, and understand God's Word, or has sin hardened our hearts and blinded our eyes? Let us never be like the people of Israel were then—unwilling to turn from their rebellious ways. May our hearts be always soft and sensitive to God's truth.  
**Let us be ready and willing to serve God!**

### ISAIAH 6:13

**But yet a tenth will be in it, And will return and be for consuming, As a terebinth tree or as an oak, Whose stump remains when it is cut down. So the holy seed shall be its stump."**

After God's judgment, it will look like the whole nation has been wiped out! Though the nation appears dead, they will be like a tree that has been cut down, yet a stump remains. God promises that one-tenth (one out of every ten people) would one day return to the land.

Let us be ready to respond to God's call upon our lives! Our response to His love and work in our lives will cause us to desire to serve Him. Remember, we do not serve Him because we think we are good enough. We will never be good enough to be in His presence and be used by Him. It is God, by His grace, who cleanses, purifies, and prepares us to be His instrument. Anything good that comes out of our lives is all by His great grace! **Let us be ready and willing to serve God!**

## **Come Along Tag**

God wants us to come along with Him to share the good news of Jesus! Play this game by playing a regular game of tag with one person. Then each time "It" tags someone, that person must join hands or link arms with "It," but only "It" can tag another student. Play until most of the group has joined "It."

## **PRAYER**

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to be ready and willing to serve at any time. Pray that the Lord will reveal His will and plans for the children, so they can begin to obey Him, even at a young age. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.