

Lesson #3-10

Isaiah's Vision in the Temple

Isaiah 6:1-8

PK-2nd

Key Verse:

And 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!”
Isaiah 6:8

The Point:

God calls imperfect people to do God's work.

Making Connections:

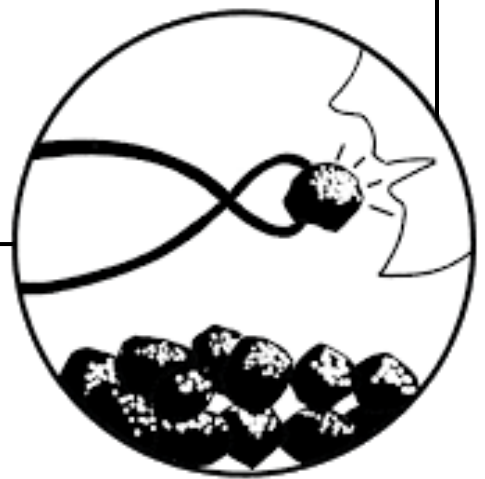
God Sightings

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

The Temple

Spiritual Practice:

Service



Activities a la Carte

Activities

Supplies

Story Centers (PK-K)

15 min.

Church

Go to church.

† Chairs

Angels, God's Messengers

Be angelic.

† Headbands

Messengers

Announce a message.

† Rolled paper

† Optional: cardboard tubes

Into the Story (PK-2nd)

What Is God Like?

Describe God.

10 min.

† Paper

† Pens or pencils

Bible Nuts & Bolts (1st-2nd)

Temple and Church

Compare the temple and the church.

10 min.

† None

Activities a la Carte

Learning the Story (PK-2nd)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Worship God while hearing about Isaiah's vision of God.

15 min.

† Bibles

Living the Story (PK-2nd)

Serve with My Lips

Mouths sing, speak, and pray in acts of service.

15 min.

† None

Singing the Story (PK-2nd)

The Lord Is in the Temple

Sing a piggyback song to the tune of "The Ants Go Marching One by One."

10 min.

† Video player

Additional Activities

Look and See (PK-2nd)

Use binoculars in this ongoing God sightings activity.

15 min.

† Binoculars from Lessons #3-8 and #3-9

Yes, You Can! (PK-2nd)

Make a train of hard workers.

15 min.

† Optional: *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper

Activities a la Carte

Additional Activities

Seraphim (1st-2nd)

Make tissue paper seraphim.

10 min.

- † Various colors of tissue paper
- † Various colors of chenille craft stem, long and short
- † Scissors

Bible Book (PK-2nd)

Optional ongoing activity.

5 min.

- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- † Cardstock or plain paper
- † Markers or crayons
- † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

Sending the Story (PK-2nd)

5 min.

- † None

Background for Teachers

Making Connections

We have seen several “God sightings” where God instructs, enables, and guides people for God’s purposes. The widow in Zarephath saw God in the miracles of flour and oil. Jonah at first refused to preach God’s message to Nineveh but was given a second chance. Today we see how God used an ordinary person like Isaiah to receive God’s prophetic messages and pass them along to the people.

Story Summary:

Isaiah’s Vision in the Temple

Isaiah was a man who served God. One day, he was drawn into the temple where he saw God. When he saw God and all of God’s glory, he realized how magnificent and perfect God is. He also realized his own imperfections next to a holy God. “Woe is me!” he said.

A seraphim (like an angel) touched Isaiah’s lips with coal and told him that his sins were forgiven. God asked who to send with an important message, and Isaiah said, “Here I am, send me!” At first, Isaiah did not feel adequate to do anything for God. Then, God showed Isaiah that God can speak through him.

The Point

God calls imperfect people to do God’s work.

As we read through the Bible, we see the stories of people who followed God’s ways, but who also had flaws. God called these people and used them just as God calls and uses us.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

The Temple

After years of wandering in the wilderness with a portable tent of worship (tabernacle), the Israelites constructed a permanent temple under Solomon’s direction. The most important room within the temple was the Holy of Holies, God’s special dwelling place, where the Ark of the Covenant was kept. The Ark of the Covenant held the Ten Commandments. Once a year on the Day of Atonement, a high priest entered the Holy of Holies and prayed for Israel. Otherwise, no one could enter the Holy of Holies—God’s presence—without dying. People brought animal sacrifices to the temple priests as atonement for sin and as special offerings. Upon Jesus’ death on the cross, his ultimate sacrifice replaced the need for regular temple sacrifices, and the veil closing off the Holy of Holies tore in half, making God available to all people everywhere.

Spiritual Practice: Service

Isaiah felt inadequate to serve a holy God. Consider the feelings of inadequacy that you may have when asked to do something or even in your current role of service. Do you believe that God can use anyone with a willing and humble heart? When God gives you an opportunity to serve, you can say with conviction, “Here am I! Send me!”



Lesson Plan



Story Centers (PK-K; 15 minutes)

Story Centers are mini-activities designed specifically for preschool and kindergarten students. Depending on the size of your class, you can set these up as centers for in-class rotations or do them as a whole class one after another. In most preschool and kindergarten classes, these centers along with a snack, the “Learning the Story” activity, and the “Living the Story” activity will fill the education time, but feel free to choose any activity you think would be fun and appropriate for your class.

Church

Isaiah was led into a temple, not a church, but for this age group the word “church” will make more sense. Chairs will be set up in rows for the students to play church.

Angels, God's Messengers

Isaiah saw angels around God. In the Bible, angels are God’s messengers. Students can wear halos (these can be headbands) and pretend to be angels. How would angels act and what would they say?

Messengers

The angels announced and repeated that God is holy. Students use rolled paper or cardboard tubes as megaphones to announce that God is holy.

Into the Story (1st-2nd; 10 minutes)

What Is God Like?

Describe God.

You will need:

- † Paper
- † Pens and pencils

During class:

1. **Describe what you look like.** If the students need a nudge, ask questions like what color hair do you have? How tall are you?
2. **What are some words that people use to describe you, other than what you look like?**
3. **We cannot see God, but what are some words that we use to describe God?**
Students may jump up and call them out or quietly reflect on them.
4. Ask the students to draw pictures of the things that can describe God.
5. **Show us your drawings and describe what you think God is like.**

Bible Nuts & Bolts (1st-2nd; 10 minutes)

Temple and Church

Compare the temple to the church.

You will need:

† Nothing

During class:

1. Begin this with the old finger play: "This is the church and this is the steeple. Open the doors and see all the people." Clasp and fold your hands, so your fingers are on the inside. Bring the pointer fingers up, and touch the tips together to form a steeple. Open out the hands while keeping the fingers clasped, to show the "people" inside the church. Visual examples of this can be found online.
2. **What is your favorite part about coming to church?** *[Answers will vary.]*
3. Repeat the finger play.
4. **What do you do to get ready for church?** *[Answers will vary but may include: get dressed, eat breakfast.]*
5. Repeat the finger play.
6. **Are visitors allowed to come to our church?** *[Yes, we like that.]*
7. Repeat the finger play.
8. **What do people do here at our church?** *[Answers will vary but may include: pray, listen to the pastor, sing, come to class, learn about Jesus, talk to each other.]*
9. Repeat the finger play.
10. **A long time ago, people went to a temple in a city called Jerusalem to worship. The temple was like the church because it was a building and people worshipped God there.**
11. **The temple was different from the church because it was a very holy place where God promised to meet the people in worship. People had to follow a lot of rules before they could go inside. They had to be very clean. They could not touch certain things or be near certain things before coming to the temple.**
12. **We have lots of churches around here, but there was only one temple. The temple was very big and beautiful. People traveled from far away to worship there. We might bring offerings of money to church, but these people gave animals and food as their offerings. People who were not Israelites were not allowed in the temple.**
13. **We worship in a church, not a temple.**
14. Repeat the finger play.

Learning the Story (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Worship God while hearing about Isaiah's vision of God.

You will need:

† Bible

During class:

1. Ask for volunteers to read or you can read the Scripture to the students.
2. After each verse is read, the students will say, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord."
3. Read Isaiah 6:1.
4. Prompt students to say, **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**
5. **What do you think God's throne looks like?** *[Answers will vary.]* **What do you think God's robe looks like?** *[Answers will vary.]*
6. Read Isaiah 6:2.
7. Prompt students to say, **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**
8. **Seraphim are heavenly beings that are long like snakes and have six wings. They worship God.**
9. Read Isaiah 6:3.
10. Prompt students to say, **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**
11. **What do you see on this earth that reminds you of how great God is?** *[Answers will vary, but may include: various parts of creation—ocean, sun, snow.]*
12. Read Isaiah 6:4.
13. Prompt students to say, **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**
14. **Why do you think the posts on the door shook?** *[God's voice is powerful.]*
15. Read Isaiah 6:5.
16. Prompt students to say, **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**
17. **Why did Isaiah remember that he is not perfect?** *[He saw a perfect God who knows everything and who is holy.]*
18. Read Isaiah 6:6-7.
19. Prompt students to say, **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.**
20. **God forgives our sin. God makes us ready to serve God.**
21. Read Isaiah 6:8-9.
22. **What would you like to do to serve God?** *[Answers will vary.]*
23. **God will give us opportunities to serve God and others.**

Living the Story (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

Serve with My Lips

Mouths sing, speak, and pray in acts of service.

You will need:

† Nothing

During class:

1. **Isaiah did not think he could speak for God. God showed him that he could.**
2. **How can you use your mouth for God?** *[Tell others about God's love, say nice words to people, etc.]*
3. **We can sing songs of praise; we can speak using kind and true words; we can pray for God to help others.**
4. **We serve God with our praise; we serve others near us with our kind words; we serve those who are not even in the room with our prayers.**
5. **What are some praise words we can say to God?** *[Thank you, praise you, hallelujah.]*
6. **What kind words can you say to others?** *[Answers will vary.]*
7. **What are some things we can ask God to do for others?** *[Keep them safe, get them food, heal them.]*
8. **Teach the students the following prayer and practice it with them.**

Help us serve you, God.

We serve you with our praise. Praise the Lord!

Help us serve others, God.

We serve others with kind words. Please, thank you, have a blessed day!

We serve others with our prayers. Please help the people who are sick.

Help us serve you, God.

Amen.

Singing the Story (PK-2nd; 10 minutes)

The Lord Is in the Temple Now

Sing a piggyback song to the tune of “The Ants Go Marching One by One.”

The Lord is in the temple now, halle-lujah
The Lord is in the temple now, halle-lujah
The Lord is in the temple now,
The glory filled the whole room somehow,
And God is present there, in the smoke.
Asking, “Whom will, I send? Whom? Whom? Whom?”

“Holy, holy,” the angels sing, halle-lujah.
“Holy, holy,” the angels sing, halle-lujah.
“Holy, holy,” the angels sing
The earth full of God’s glory rings
And God is present there, in the smoke.
Asking, “Whom will, I send? Whom? Whom? Whom?”

“Here I am,” Isaiah says, “Send me, send me!”
“Here I am,” Isaiah says, “Send me, send me!”
“Here I am,” Isaiah says.
“I will go and tell your words.”
And God is present there, in the smoke.
Saying, “Yes, you will go. Go! Go! Go!”

Additional Activities

Look and See (PK-2nd; 10 minutes)

Use binoculars in this ongoing God sightings activity.

You will need:

- † Binoculars from last week's lesson

During class:

1. This is a continuation of the Look and See God Sightings activity for this unit. It incorporates looking back over the previous week to where students saw God at work in the world around them. If you made binoculars for the previous lessons, distribute those. If you used hands, remind the students to shape their hands into binoculars.
2. Give the students time to look through the binoculars and share their God sightings from the past week. Encourage students to share their binoculars with other students who were absent with the binoculars were made.
3. **Look through your binoculars and tell us some of what Isaiah saw in his God sighting.**
4. At the end, collect the binoculars and ask the students to remember to look for even more God sightings this coming week.



Yes, You Can! (PK-2nd; 15 minutes)

We can do what God has for us to do.

You will need:

- † Optional: *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper

During class:

1. Optional: Read *The Little Engine that Could* (available at a local library if you do not have it).
2. **We can do anything that God asks us to do because God will give us what we need to do it.**
3. Line the students up to form a train.
4. **Our train will stop each time there is doubt about doing work for God. The train will move again when we say, With God we can! With God we can!**
5. The train starts moving.
6. **The little girl did not think she could sing in the children's choir.** (Train stops.)
7. Students: With God she can! With God she can! (Trains moves again.)
8. **The little boy did not think he could read the Bible because of the difficult words in it.** (Train stops.)
9. Students: With God he can! With God he can! (Trains moves again.)
10. **The children did not think they could look for a passage in the Bible to share with a friend.**
11. Students: With God they can! With God they can!
12. **The girl did not think she could tell others at school about God.**
13. Students: With God she can! With God she can!
14. **The boy was afraid to stand up for another boy that was being teased.**
15. Students: With God he can! With God he can!
16. **The girl did not think she could sit quietly in church so others could hear the message.**
17. Students: With God she can! With God she can!
18. **We can do anything that God asks us to do because God will give us what we need to do it.**
19. The students might enjoy doing this more than once.



Seraphim (1st-2nd; 15 minutes)

Make a tissue paper pipe cleaner seraphim.

You will need:

- † Various colors of tissue paper
- † Various colors of chenille craft stems, long and short
- † Scissors

Before class:

1. Make a seraphim to use as an example.

During class:

1. **We are going to make seraphim to remind us how even the angels serve and worship the holiness of God.**
2. Give each student one long chenille stem (eight inches or so) and three short chenille stems. The short ones can be about four or five inches.
3. Take one long chenille stem and place it vertically on the table.
4. Wrap and twist each of the other three chenille stems around the long chenille stem, at various increments from top to bottom, so it looks like there are six arms, three on each side.
5. Cut or tear tissue paper so it is approximately two to three inches long and an inch wide.
6. Fold (drape) a piece of tissue paper over one of the “arms.” Bend the chenille stem in toward the long stem, so it goes over the fold of the tissue and can wrap around the long chenille stem. This holds the tissue in place and creates a wing. Continue for the other “arms” until there are six wings.
7. When the seraphim are made say: **We will wave our seraphim to make them fly when we worship God. Repeat what I say and gently wave your seraphim when you speak.**
8. **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.** (echo.)
9. **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.** (echo.)
10. **The Lord is holy, the Lord is good.** (echo.)
11. **Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.** (echo.)
12. **Let us remember to worship God at church and at home, too.**



Bible Book (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

Optional ongoing activity.

You will need:

- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- † Cardstock or plain paper
- † Markers or crayons
- † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

Before class:

1. Make copies of this week's Bible Book page on cardstock or copy paper for each student.

During class:

1. Pass out Bible Book pages.
2. Read the bottom of the Bible Book page aloud, reminding students of what they learned in the lesson.
3. Have them put their names on their pages, and draw a picture of something they particularly liked or remember from story in the middle of the page.
4. Optional: Collect and three-hole punch the pages, and put them in individual binders for each student to be kept at church until the end of the year. If you wish, you can investigate other options for binding the Bible books through a local print shop at the end of the year instead of using a three-ring binder.



Sending the Story (PK-2nd; 5 minutes)

The story of Isaiah shows how God calls imperfect people into God's service, including us!

1. **Why was Isaiah afraid to speak for God?** [*He did not think he could do a good job; he knew he was not holy like God and had sinned with his mouth.*]
2. **What did Isaiah say when the seraphim showed him that God can use him anyway?** [*"Here am I! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8)*]
3. Practice saying: "Here am I! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8).
4. You may need to teach the closing prayer before using it.

Prayer

Before ending class, make a point to come together to pray. Use the following or say your own prayer.

Have students cover their mouths with both hands and bow heads.

God, help us use our mouths for you.

Have students move hands away from mouth and say: "Here am I! Send me." (Isaiah 6:8)

Amen.

Isaiah's Vision in the Temple

Isaiah 6:1-8

The Point:

God calls imperfect people to do God's work.



The Story @ Home

PK-2nd

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2020-2021)

Lesson #3-10
Isaiah 6:1-8

Last Week

Jonah was a prophet whose job was to tell the people of Nineveh to turn towards God and repent. (Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10; [4:1-11]).

This Week

God calls Isaiah to be a prophet in a dramatic and frightening vision in the temple, but, unlike Jonah, he accepts the call (Isaiah 6:1-8).

The Point

God calls imperfect people to do God's work.

Story Summary

Isaiah's Vision in the Temple

Isaiah was a man who served God. One day, he was led to go into the temple where he saw God. When he saw God and all of God's glory, he realized how magnificent and perfect God is. He also realized his own imperfections next to a holy God. "Woe is me!" he said. An angel touched Isaiah's lips with coal and told him that his sins were forgiven. God asked who to send with an important message, and Isaiah said, "Here I am, send me!" At first, Isaiah did not feel adequate to do anything for God. Then God showed Isaiah that God can empower him to do what he was called to do.

Bible Nuts & Bolts

The Temple

After years of wandering in the wilderness with a portable tent for worship, the Israelites constructed a permanent temple when Solomon was king. The most important room within the temple was the Holy of Holies, God's special dwelling place. People brought animal sacrifices to the temple priests as atonement for sin and as special offerings.

Practice: Service

When Isaiah was called into service for God, he felt inadequate before a holy God. Do you believe that God can use anyone with a willing and contrite heart? As a family, pray and ask God to show you something that you can do to serve others. Then say together, with conviction, "Here am I! Send me!"

Next Week

The prophet Jeremiah has a message calling an unfaithful people to repentance with promises of forgiveness. The king burns the prophecy, but the prophet just writes it again (Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34).

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✝ What do you think God's plans are for you for right now?
- ✝ What do you hope God has planned for you when you get older?
- ✝ What did God do in this reading that shows God's love for people?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Isaiah 6:1-8

Isaiah saw a vision of God in the temple. When God called Isaiah to be a prophet, Isaiah had a willing and humble heart. Place your fingers on your lips. Ask God to use you as you are.

Monday—Read Isaiah 11:1-9

Isaiah told of the coming Messiah who would bring peace to the world. The Messiah would be wise, righteous, and faithful. Hold hands and sit quietly. Think about God, love, and peace. Enjoy the quiet together.

Tuesday—Read Isaiah 25:1-10

Rejoice and praise God for the Messiah who delivers people from oppression. Give thanks for God's strength and comfort. Sit in a circle and give each person a chance to say something they are thankful for.

Wednesday—Read Isaiah 38:1-8

King Hezekiah was deathly ill. God heard his prayer and promised him fifteen more years of life. He and his people would be delivered from Assyria. Make "bucket lists." What are your dreams for all of the things that you want to do in your lifetime?

Thursday—Read Isaiah 44:1-8

There is no other God than the Lord. Isaiah said God gives water to the thirsty and blesses those who say that God is their God. Drink a glass of water and thank God for quenching your physical thirst as well as your spiritual thirst.

Friday—Read Jeremiah 1:4-10

God had a plan for Jeremiah. Even though Jeremiah thought he was too young to speak for God, God gave him the words to speak. Line up by age. Play "telephone" where the oldest family member whispers something to the next family member, and go down the line until the youngest person calls out the message.

Saturday—Read 2 Kings 23:1-3, 21-25

King Josiah destroyed all the idols and restored the Passover feast. He followed God, and the people followed his example. List the family's schedule for the coming week. Is there anything you can do without, so the family can slow down and spend more time reading the Bible and praying together?