

“How to Listen to Isaiah” | Isaiah 6
Sermon Discussion Questions
9/9/18

1. The message this week Pastor Jim began with a parable. Take a moment and recall the story as a group. What was the point of this parable?
2. As we begin our series in the book of Isaiah, Pastor Jim took us to Isaiah 6. This chapter is the key passage in Isaiah, setting the tone for what we will learn and how we should approach Isaiah as a community. Have someone read the chapter to your group. What stands out to you?
3. This chapter has something to say about God and us. Let's begin with God. What does this chapter say about God? What main theme comes through in the words and descriptions used?
4. We enter into the story by looking at at Isaiah's response in verse 5. As he encounters God, Isaiah is overwhelmed and overcome. What important aspects of Isaiah's response did Pastor Jim point out? How do we see these in our own life?
5. In the face of God's glory and holiness, Isaiah's response is to acknowledge his own sin and repent. Once he does so, God's voice becomes clearer and can be heard. Take a moment and reflect on when this might have been true in your own life. Have you ever had a moment of being overcome by God's presence and needing to confess your own brokenness and rebellion? What was the result?
6. Whenever any of us are faced with God's presence, when he shows up, we have only one of two choices:
 - acknowledge our sin, confess and draw closer to Him or
 - harden our hearts and move further from God.Pastor Jim gave us many examples of where we might see this in our own lives. Why do you think we turn from God and harden our hearts? Why do we so often fight back against repentance?
7. As we begin this series we have a choice: to be open to the presence of God or to close our hearts and fight him. Take a moment as you close and pray with each other. Pray for your group but also for Calvary Church and those that will attend the series. Pray that God would soften hearts and that people would be receptive throughout. Pray for humble responses to God, pray for people to be willing to let go and acknowledge their sin so that the Lord may move in new fresh ways in their lives, and that we all may declare “holy, holy, holy is the Lord almighty”.