LESSON 10 / PROPHET ISAIAH

Lesson 10

PROPHET ISAIAH

OBJECTIVES

- 1. To understand that repentance requires us to return and do what is right.
- 2. To make the determination to serve the Lord throughout our whole life.
- 3. To understand what it means to be a living sacrifice for the Lord.

MEMORY VERSE

"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.'"

(Isaiah 6:8)

PRAYER

Thank You, Lord for guiding us through the past week so that we can come to church to worship You and fellowship together. Please help us to learn from the example of Isaiah and determine to make our servitude lifelong. May You continue to strengthen us and open our minds so that we will retain the teachings from our lesson today.



- 1. Bible Discovery and Spiritual Teaching
 - a. Isaiah's Vision
 - b. Isaiah's Calling
 - c. Isaiah's Service
- 2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—the Holy Spirit
- 3. Life Application—Be a Living Sacrifice
- 4. Activity—Memory Verse Ring Tower



Background Knowledge for Teachers

Prior to the period when Isaiah served as prophet, the political and social states of Judah and Israel both prospered and flourished. Under the guidance of King Uzziah, Judah experienced a period of wealth and riches, and the northern kingdom of Israel experienced a period of great territorial expansion, returning to the days of King Solomon, under the rule of King Jeroboam II. Yet, this seemingly prosperous time created inequality among the rich and the poor, resulting in a large gap between the classes.

Isaiah was born during the reign of King Uzziah, the most stable and prosperous period in the history of Judah. King Uzziah devoutly worshipped and honored God in all things. It is unfortunate that in his later years, his great pride caused him to receive punishment from God in the form of leprosy. Isolated, he reigned collaboratively with his son Jotham for twelve years, with his son ruling in his place. The year that Uzziah died, God called forth Isaiah to serve as His prophet to speak His messages to the kingdom of Judah, which faced pressure from their powerful enemies to the north.

The name Isaiah means, "Lord is salvation." Isaiah counted Amos, Hosea, and Micah among his contemporaries. In addition, his wife also served as prophetess, and he had at least two sons: Shear-Jashub, meaning "a remnant shall return," and Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz, meaning "quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil" (Is 7:3; 8:3). Isaiah served as prophet during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. Though King Uzziah and King Jotham managed to restore the worship of God during their reigns, they did not remove the high places. Furthermore, they indulged in luxurious, extravagant lifestyles. When King Ahaz ascended to the throne, he took away the worship of God and broke the commandments in an attempt to rid the name of God from the hearts of all the people. Isaiah publicly rebuked his sin, but King Ahaz paid no heed

to his warnings. Lastly, despites Hezekiah's numerous efforts in advocating religious restoration, his son Manasseh dealt in even more corruption than all the evil kings before him.

Isaiah's message focused on two points:

- 1. His message addresses the coming judgment of God upon His people and upon the surrounding nations.
- 2. He also speaks messages of hope and salvation through His prophecies about the return of the remnant of Israel, as well as about the coming Messiah.



Elementary 2 students should be able to understand the story of the calling of Isaiah. However, it is also important to instill in students the idea that even though they are not prophets like Isaiah, they, too, are servants of God. Even though they are young, they can already start preparing and cultivating themselves to serve. To make the lesson more applicable, try to bridge the gap between the students and Isaiah by having the students think about how they plan to serve the Lord in the future and what they can do to prepare.



5 Minutes

[Write the words, "Here am I! Send me!" on the board.]

Ask students, "Who do you think said these famous words?" [Wait for students to respond.]

Yes, the prophet Isaiah spoke these well-known words. Isaiah served as prophet of Judah during a time when the people were disobedient to God and unwilling to turn back. It was a difficult job, but he was still willing to do it.

Today, we are going to learn about how the Lord called Isaiah to serve Him and about why we should also say to God, "Here am I! Send me!"



seraphim: angels who serve as the caretakers of God's throne and who continuously sing His praises **reverence:** feelings of respect or honor shown to another

vassal: a person under the authority of another to whom he pays taxes in exchange for protection



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

Prophet Isaiah's name means, "the Lord is salvation." He was born during the reign of King Uzziah, a time of wealth and prosperity in the kingdom of Judah. Good King Uzziah did what was right in the eyes of God. As a result, God blessed him, allowing the country to experience a period of peace and riches. However, due to Uzziah's great self-pride, he refused to listen to the priest's warnings and burned incense on the altar to God. God punished his act of pride with leprosy, and he was no longer able to serve as king.

Our story today begins in the year that King Uzziah dies. Let's turn to Isaiah 6:1-4.

For Teachers

Pass out Bible Discovery Worksheet #1. Ask each student to draw what is being described in the passage.

Isaiah's Vision

In the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah saw a marvelous

vision. In this vision, Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and His robe and glory completely filled the temple. Standing above the throne were seraphim, each with six wings, two covering their faces, two covering their feet, and two being used to fly around the temple. They continually proclaimed praises, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts." The sound of their praises shook the posts of the temple door and the temple was filled with smoke. What do you think seraphim are? [Allow students to respond.]

Yes, seraphim are angels of the Lord, and they are special because they have the duty of praising Him. Seraphim have six wings; they use two to cover their faces, two to cover their feet, and two to fly. Each of these actions has a symbolic meaning; let us look at each of them.

1. Covering the face

A person's face is related to their identity because we are able to recognize a person based on what they look like. For the seraphim, to hide their face before God is a symbol of reverence to the Lord and of their humility in serving. When we serve others, we first need to understand whom we are serving. When we are serving the Lord, the person we are serving is God. If we understand that we are serving God, then our actions will also reflect that same attitude of reverence towards Him. God is so glorious and holy, but He has chosen us to be His special people! As a result, we must come before God in humility and hide ourselves. So, how exactly can we hide our faces before God? Let us think about how we behave during church services or classes. Are we talking to our friends or passing notes? This would not be showing God reverence and honor. It would not be hiding our faces! Instead, we should make sure that we are able to show God honor through singing praises to Him from our hearts and writing down important teachings from the sermon or class. Can you think of any other ways we can show reverence and honor to God in our life? [Allow students to respond.]

2. Covering the feet

The action of covering the feet is also similar to covering the face. When we serve before God, we have to hide our footprints, or what we have done. We should not leave a mark for people to remember us by. This means that we should not be bragging to our friends about what we are doing for the church or looking down on others who are unable to do the same. Instead, we should serve the Lord in secret. For example, when we see a piece of trash on the ground, we can quietly pick it up and throw it away. Even though people may not see us, God will remember what we have done for Him.

3. Two wings to fly

The last set of wings represents the need for us to serve the Lord with quickness and alertness! This means that we have to make sure we are prepared for when God calls for us. For example, if we were to serve as a religious education teacher in the future, we would have to make sure we are familiar with the Bible and the teachings in it. Knowing how to lead as a religious education teacher does not happen overnight; it is something that we have to put in effort to accomplish. This is true of all other types of holy work as well. Even though right now, we may think that we are very young, but we can actually start preparing right now for when God is going to use us!

Apart from these three importance teachings about servitude, we also have to make sure that we are a holy vessel for the Lord. The word "Seraphim" means burning ones, so this is a reminder that we actually have to purify ourselves and be holy to serve. We have to examine ourselves to make sure that we, as living sacrifices, are holy and usable by God. Prophet Isaiah also comes to realize this truth after seeing the vision. Let's read Isaiah 6:5-7.

For Teachers

Pass out Bible Discovery Worksheet #2.

Isaiah's Calling

After seeing this glorious vision of God, Isaiah was feeling insignificant and unworthy in the presence of the Lord. He said, "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips." Then, one of the seraphim flew to Isaiah, holding in his hand a live coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. The seraphim took this live coal and touched Isaiah's mouth with it, saying, "The Lord has taken your iniquity away." Why do you think God sent one of the seraphim to touch a live coal to Isaiah's lips? [Wait for students to respond.]

A seraph took a live coal from the altar, an item that has the power to cleanse and to remit sins (Mal 3:2; Mt 3:11), and he touched Isaiah's mouth with it. Thus, Isaiah received cleansing from his sins and became worthy to speak for God. Live coal is used to make fire, and fire represents God's wrath or His way of refining men. As men use fire to burn up the impurities from a metal, God uses His fire to burn up the impurities in men to create better vessels for His use (Isa 48:10; Mal 3:3; 1 Pet 1:7). Isaiah was unclean and from the actions of the seraphim, we can see that this is because of his lips. In our daily life, we use our lips often to talk to the people around us and to God. However, when we think about the words that we use, are these words edifying or do they bring people down? Our lips, or mouths, are one of the most difficult things to control because many times the words that come out of our mouths can hurt a person's feelings or they could be a lie. This is why the seraphim brought the burning coal from the altar to Isaiah's lips! After having his lips purified, Isaiah heard the calling of the Lord. Let's read Isaiah 6:8.

Then, Isaiah heard God say, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" God spoke these words to Isaiah because God wanted to call Isaiah to serve as His prophet and spread the message of His will. Isaiah responded to God's calling saying, "Here am I! Send me." [Ask students to repeat this phrase.]

Isaiah was able to respond this way because he understood that God's will was for him to go out and serve. He was ready to be sent out and to do the work of the Lord. From that point on, the spirit of God moved Isaiah many times to allow him to understand all that would happen to Judah in the coming years. Isaiah faithfully and courageously spread these warnings from God. In his sixty years as prophet, three kings came and went: Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. Let us learn about the service of Isaiah during the reign of these kings.

Isaiah's Service

I. During the Reign of King Ahaz

When Ahaz reigned as king in Judah, a kingdom called Assyria was very strong and was conquering all of its neighboring countries. As a result, the small neighboring countries all feared that they would perish at the hands of the Assyrians. One day, messengers from Syria and Israel paid a visit to King Ahaz seeking an alliance to fight against the Assyrians. However, King Ahaz believed that Assyria was too far from Judah, so he refused their offer, causing the two countries to be extremely upset. In retaliation, Syria and Israel allied together to attack Jerusalem, killing many people along the way, and occupying many of Judah's cities.

When King Ahaz heard that they were coming to attack, he became flustered. He quickly tried to find reinforcements! However, instead of turning to the Lord for help, he went to go ask his greatest enemies, the Assyrians. Upon hearing of this plan, Isaiah went to the king and advised him, saying that Assyria was even more evil than both Syria and Israel combined and that to ask for their help would bring about great consequences. Furthermore, Isaiah reminded King Ahaz that he should rely on God and have faith in God. However, idolworshipper Ahaz would not listen to a word that Isaiah said (2 Ki 16:5-9; 2 Chr 28:5). In the end, the Assyrians defeated Syria and Israel, but Judah paid the price and had to become a vassal kingdom of Assyria's. This meant that they had to pay a great amount of gold and silver to Assyria, and that the people would be under the influence of Assyria. As a result of the Assyrian influence, the people of God began to worship the idols of the Assyrians. Isaiah saw this and felt great pain in his heart that the people of God had gone astray. He would often use harsh words to rebuke and also warn the people that since they had strayed away from the Lord, the kingdom of Judah would soon be destroyed. However, the people would not listen to him.

II. During the Reign of King Hezekiah

After King Ahaz passed away, Hezekiah became king. Not long after, the Assyrians destroyed the northern kingdom of Israel, and they continued their conquest by marching towards Judah. They surrounded the capital of Judah, Jerusalem. The commander of the Assyrian army stood outside the walls of Jerusalem crying out and proclaiming that the true God of the Israelites would not be able to protect them and telling them to surrender quickly. Upon hearing about this upcoming attack, a distressed King Hezekiah went to the temple to pray to God and sent a messenger to inquire of the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah comforted the messenger by saying, "The Assyrian army has destroyed many nations and cast their gods into the fire, but they were not gods. They were only images of wood and stone. Our true God has already clearly told us that He will save Jerusalem from danger."

Did the words of Prophet Isaiah come true? [Allow students to respond.] Yes, the words of the prophet came true! Let's read Isaiah 37:33-36.

The angel of the Lord went out and killed 185,000 men in the camp of the Assyrians. When people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead. God was the great protector and deliverer!

III. The Hope of the Prophet

God was able to save the kingdom of Judah from this danger. Yet, when the disaster passed, the people once again forgot God and fell back into a life of indulgence. Prophet Isaiah became increasingly distressed and worried for the people. If the people did not worship and obey God and His will, then the kingdom would soon perish and the people would be carried away to a foreign land. However, God still loved His children, so He revealed to Isaiah that after the disaster and trials had passed, He would raise up a person that would guide the Israelites to return to God. This person would be none other than Jesus Christ. He would be born more than seven hundred years after Isaiah's prophecy, and He would be the one to save the Israelites, as well as all those who came to believe in Him!

A

Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

Believers should rely on the Holy Spirit to pursue holiness, to honor God, and to love humanity.

God will pour out the Holy Spirit to guide those who believe in Him and to give them the power to separate themselves from the unclean things of the world. They will also have the wisdom to understand God's word and to serve God.



Check for Understanding

- 1. How was the prophet Isaiah called to serve?
 - a. The prophet saw a vision in the year that King Uzziah died.
 - b. In the vision, God was sitting on a throne and the train of His robe filled the temple.
 - c. Above the throne, seraphim were flying and praising God.
- 2. What does the prophet Isaiah's name mean? The Lord is salvation.
- **3.** How many wings did the seraphim have? What does each pair of wings represent? 6 wings: 2 to cover their face to show reverence; 2 to cover their feet to show humility; and 2 to fly with to show preparedness and alertness.
- **4. Why did the seraph touch Isaiah's mouth with a live coal?** Isaiah believed that he was of impure lips and unfit to serve the Lord. So, the seraph touched the live coal to Isaiah's lips to cleanse his mouth so that he could become worthy to speak for God. God uses fire to burn impurities out of His servants, and this was a way to refine Isaiah.
- 5. During the reign of King Ahaz, which two countries came to attack the kingdom of Judah? The kingdom of Syria and Israel came to attack.



10 Minutes

Be A Living Sacrifice

Just like Isaiah, we also have been called by the Lord to serve Him.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1-2)

From this verse, we can see that God wants us to be a living sacrifice to Him. However what does this mean? Let us dig a little deeper into what it means to be a living sacrifice for the Lord!

First, let us define what it means to be living, or not dead. In the Book of Revelation, it talks about a church that seems alive on the outside but is actually dead on the inside (Rev 3:1-6). The church in Sardis was one that was Christian in name only. Even though they had actions and deeds, they failed to follow the commands of God with their whole heart. Today, we may also be like this. We go to church on Saturdays, not to worship God, but rather to hang out with our friends. Or, we sing hymns of worship to the Lord, but do not truly think about what we are singing or for whom we are singing. Let us examine our hearts and ask, "Am I spiritually alive?"

Second, our living sacrifice to the Lord needs to be holy. God tells us often that as His people we have to be holy because He is holy. So what does it mean to be holy? (Pure, clean, sanctified, etc.) In all aspects of our life, we have to pursue after holiness, such as watching the words we say or the things that we see with our eyes. What are three things you can do to pursue after holiness? (Possible answers: Spend only one hour on the computer; speak words that build others up; pray to God before I go to school every morning; etc.)

Third, our offering has to be one that is acceptable and pleasing to the Lord. Let's look at an example in the Bible. Genesis 4:1-5 records the story of two brothers: Cain and Abel. God was pleased with Abel's offering, but not Cain's.

2-5 Minutes

5 Minutes

Why? Even though both Cain and Abel had offered to the Lord, Abel offered the best that he had to God. Today, we also have to make sure that we also give an offering to the Lord that is the best. For example, when we are doing our cleaning duties at church, do we rush through it just to get it over with? Or do we really take our time to clean our classroom so that it is neat and presentable? God is looking to see not only if we are serving Him, but also how we are serving Him. What are some ways that we can improve in our servitude so that God will be pleased with our sacrifice?

From these three characteristics, we can see that God looks not only at our actions, but also most importantly, at our hearts. Let us really ask God to help us make our whole life a living sacrifice to Him that is alive, holy, and pleasing to Him!

[Read the testimony at the bottom of Life Application Worksheet #1 and discuss the following questions:

Questions to Think About

- 1. If Jesus Christ appeared to you, what would you do?
- 2. Why did the sister hold on to the garment of Jesus Christ?
- 3. Do you have the same determination to hold on to the garment? Why or why not?]

[Pass out Life Application Worksheet #2. Read each scenario and discuss the questions.]



Activity

Memory Verse Ring Tower

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To help the students memorize the memory verse.

Materials

- Construction paper
- Scissors

Pencils/markers

Stapler or tape

Ring Tower Instructions

- 1. Distribute two sheets of construction paper to each student.
- 2. Have students fold the construction paper in half lengthwise, and then repeat. Do this for both sheets of construction paper.
- 3. Cut the folds of the construction paper. You should end up with eight strips of paper, four per sheet.
- 4. Divide the memory verse into eight parts (include the Bible book, chapter, and verse).
- 5. On each strip of paper, write down one part.
- 6. Form each strip into a ring, with the words showing on the outside, and then staple or tape the ends to secure them. You will have a total of eight rings.

How to Play

1. Have each student mix up their rings.

- 2. Then, one by one, the students create a ring tower by stacking the rings in the order of the memory verse.
 - You can decide whether the students begin the tower with the first part or the last part of the memory verse.
 - You can have students race each other or time them to see how fast they can stack the rings.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

- 1. True
- 2. False; Isaiah saw a vision in the year that King Uzziah died.
- 3. Uzziah, God, seraphim
- 4. The seraphim each had six wings.
- 5. Two to cover their face to show reverence; two to cover their feet to show humility; and two to fly with to show preparedness and alertness.
- 6. The seraph touched the live coal to Isaiah's lips to cleanse his mouth so that he could become worthy to speak for God.

7. Answers may vary.

ISAIAH'S VISION

Draw a picture of the vision described in Isaiah 6:1-4.



	Isaiah's Calling	
/	"Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean"	
	Isaiah's were unclean because	
	Then one seraphim took a piece of coal from the and put it	
	on his lips to purify it. Then, Isaiah heard God say, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Isaiah responded to God's calling, saying, "Here am I! me."	

Isaiah's Service

During the Reign of King Ahaz

What crisis happened during the reign of King Ahaz? Who went to attack him?

What warning did Isaiah give to King Ahaz and the Israelites?

During the Reign of King Hezekiah

What crisis happened during the reign of King Hezekiah? Who went to attack him?

How was the crisis resolved?



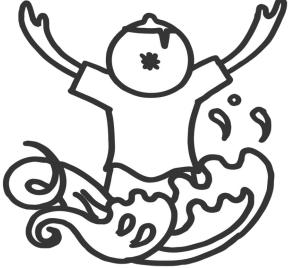
God used the prophet Isaiah to do His great works! Let us also prepare ourselves to serve our God in heaven!

BE A LIVING SACRIFICE

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service." (Romans 12:1-2)

Characteristics of a Living Sacrifice

Living	Holy	Acceptable
means	means	means
Example: The church in Sardis (Rev 3:1-6) was spiritually dead! They seemed alive on the	Here are three things I can do to pursue holiness!	Example: Cain and Abel (Gen 4:1-5)
outside, but on the inside, they were spiritually lifeless.	First, I can	God was pleased with Abel's offering and not Cain's, because
l am spiritually		Here are three ways I can improve in my servitude to the Lord!
I know this because	Second, I can	First, I can
		Second, I can
	Third, I can	 Third, I can



ELEMENTARY 2 YEAR 3 / BOOK 4

Testimony

During a church seminar, a sister was greatly encouraged by the pastor to pray earnestly and be filled with the Holy Spirit. A few minutes after the prayer began, a bright light suddenly shone into her eyes. At first, she thought the light was coming in through the window, so she decided to ignore it and lowered her head. However, the light continued to shine into her eyes persistently. She then lifted her head and realized that this was no ordinary light.

A few minutes later, a person in a white garment walked towards her. His face was somewhat unclear. He pointed to her and said, "I live in you." At that moment, she was overwhelmed with rivers of living water that welled up from the depths of her heart. She stretched out her arms to grab hold of His garment. She felt incredible joy at that moment. Then He said, "I must leave." She wanted to call to the sisters in front of her to ask them to help her hold on to His garment. At this point, her head was almost touching the carpet, and she exclaimed, "No, no, please, God, no!" She said, "It was so difficult for me to grab hold of Your garment. It is impossible for me to let it go!" Once again, Jesus said, "I must leave." She continued to hold His garment, and said, "No, no, no!" A sister then approached her and said, "Hallelujah, Amen!" She then let go of His garment and He disappeared, ending the vision.



The vision became a reminder to the sister about the love of God and it once again motivated her to serve the Lord with all her heart.



BEING A LIVING SACRIFICE

Sarah was a good girl. Her friends at school loved her, and at church, she always did what her RE teachers told her. She served the Lord and never missed a Sabbath service. She was also proud of the fact that she had already read the whole Bible on her own! However, Sarah was a completely different person at home. She had a horrible relationship with her parents, and as a result, she would ignore her parents and also talk back to them. Sarah hated that they would always try to get in her business, even though she was doing well in school. They would always ask so many questions! She didn't think that they needed to know about every single detail of her life. At night, Sarah's parents would always make her pray and read the Bible with them every night, even though she was pretty sure she could do it herself! It was so annoying!

Discussion Questions

- 1. Would you consider Sarah a good Christian? Why or why not?
- 2. What would you say to encourage Sarah to be a living sacrifice in all parts of her life?
- 3. What parts of your life do you need to work on so that you can be a living sacrifice for God? Be specific!

BEING A HOLY SACRIFICE

Paul loved to sing hymns. Whenever they sang hymns during RE class, he would always sing the loudest. This was what he was known for, and of course, he also joined the choir at church! It always made him feel good to be praising God. Paul, however, had a secret that even his parents didn't know about. What was it? He loved to swear! He only did it at school while hanging out with his friends, and it shouldn't be a big deal because his friends all swore as well. In the beginning, he only did it to fit in, but over time, he had come to like the feeling of the words leaving his mouth. It made him feel like he was grownup. He would often justify it to himself saying that they're only words and that his good actions speak louder than words.

Discussion Questions

1. What is wrong with Paul's heart of serving?

2. What would you say to Paul to help him improve in his servitude?

3. What are some changes you need to make to ensure that you are a holy sacrifice to the Lord?

BEING AN ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICE

Jordan was assigned to clean the restroom after RE class. However, at the same time, he saw that the older boys were already out of class and playing his favorite game, basketball. He wanted to join them, so he quickly cleaned the restroom and ran out to play. Later on, his teacher went to check the restroom to see if Jordan had missed anything and found that the there was still a pile of trash on the ground and that there was no more toilet paper in a few of the stalls.

Discussion Questions

1. Was Jordan's sacrifice acceptable? Why or why not?

2. What should Jordan have done?







E2 Year 3 Book 4 Lesson 10—Prophet Isaiah Homework Assignment

Name: Parent signature: _							t signa		Date:	
Weekly Bible Reading: Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading. Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.								2	1	What I Learned from the Bible This Week
	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		-	
Read									2	
Pray									-	

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (Isaiah 6:8)

True or False

- 1. _____ Prophet Isaiah's name means "the Lord is salvation."
- 2. _____ In the year King Hezekiah died, Prophet Isaiah saw a vision of the Lord.

Fill In the Blank

3. How was the prophet Isaiah called to serve? The prophet saw the vision in the year that King ______ died. In the vision, ______ was sitting on a throne and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above the throne, ______ were flying and praising God.

Short Answer

- 4. How many wings did the seraphim have?
- 5. What does each pair of wings represent?
- 6. Why did the seraph touch Isaiah's mouth with a live coal?
- 7. How can we make a sacrifice that is holy, pleasing, and acceptable to the Lord in our actions?