



“God Is Holy”
DIVINE DICTIONARY
Small Group Plan

God is not an idea, or a definition that we have committed to memory, he is a presence, which we experience in our hearts.

-- Louis Evely

We die on the day when our lives cease to be illumined by the steady radiance renewed daily, of a wonder, the source of which is beyond reason.

-- Dag Hammarskjold

I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help him. I ended up by asking him to do his work through me.

-- Hudson Taylor

OPEN IT / INTRODUCE IT ...

- What did you grow up thinking about holiness?
- How has your understanding grown or changed?

LOOK AT IT / STUDY IT ...

HOW IS GOD HOLY?

HE IS INFINITELY GREATER IN INTELLECT
Hebrews 4:13

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

- As a group, list as many categories or kinds of things that God knows all about.
- Why is it spiritually healthy to list and reflect on God’s knowledge ... and then to realize and admit that our list can’t possibly cover what God actually knows?

HE IS UNQUESTIONABLY GREATER IN POWER
Luke 1:37

For nothing is impossible with God.

- How would you describe the limits of our human power?
- As a group, list the kinds of things that are impossible for us to do.
- How difficult is it for you to believe that God can do accomplish everything on our list?

HE IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IN SUBSTANCE
John 4:24

God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.

- What does it mean for God to be a Spirit?
- How is the spiritual substance even more “real” than the physical substance?

HE IS ABSOLUTELY PERFECT IN MORALITY
Deuteronomy 32:4

He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

- Why is it impossible for God to do wrong?
- How would you describe the morality of God?

HOW DO WE RESPOND TO GOD’S HOLINESS?
Isaiah 6:1-8

¹ *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple.* ² *Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.* ³ *And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”* ⁴ *At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.* ⁵ *“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”* ⁶ *Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.* ⁷ *With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”* ⁸ *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”*

WITH JOYFUL SURRENDER
Verse 5

“Woe to me!” I cried.

- Put this phrase in context and imagine how Isaiah is feeling. Describe it.
- Where is Isaiah’s surrender coming from and what form is it taking?

WITH HEARTFELT WORSHIP
Verse 3

*“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”*

- From where does deep worship spring?
- Why is true worship also shared worship – “calling to one another”?

WITH THOUGHTFUL ACTION
Verse 8

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

- Why does a clear awareness of God’s presence and power lead to ministry?
- Why is ministry that is driven by God’s holiness empty of all personal pride and arrogance?

USE IT / APPLY IT ...

- Have you ever had an experience like Isaiah’s? Describe it.
- God’s holiness awed Isaiah. Which of God’s qualities most impresses you – His Intellect – His Power – His Spirit – His Morality? Explain your answer.
- In what area of your life do you need to believe that “nothing is impossible with God”?
- Spend some time in silent prayer, reflecting on God’s amazing holiness?