

Firestarter 3

Scripture: Isaiah 6–8

Before you read

1. Gather a pen, paper, and highlighters (for marking in your Bible) if you don't want to mark in your Bible. Print off this sheet and mark it here.
2. Pray, asking God for wisdom and understanding of the words you are about to read.
3. Read the section more than one time.
 - First, read to understand
 - Second, read to notice
 - Third, read for questions. Record your questions as you read and see if you can answer them. Then choose three questions from the observation section and find answers to them.
 - Fourth, In chapter 6, mark words about **cleanliness**; in chapter 7, mark words that refer to **children**; in chapter 8, mark the phrases that are **instructions** to Isaiah.

READ: Isaiah 6–8

OBSERVATION:

How did Isaiah's vision of the Lord affect him personally? (See 6:1 first and second notes.)

Describe God's character? (See 6:1 second note and 6:3 note.)

Why did Isaiah feel unworthy, and what changed his perspective? (See 6:5 note.)

Why did God want Isaiah to deliver His message, even though God knew that most people would reject it? (See 6:8 & 6:9 note.)

How did King Ahaz lack faith in God when Israel and Aram prepared to attack (ch. 7)? (See 7:1-25 note and 7:12 note.)

According to 7:9, what happens if we don't stand firm in the faith?

How will Ahaz's misguided trust in another nation come back to trouble the nation of Judah? (See 7:12 note.)

In what way did the prophecy in 7:14 have immediate and future implications?

Who ultimately fulfilled this prophecy? (See 7:14 note.)

In the middle of Isaiah's prophecy of destruction, what hope did God provide? (See 8:8 note.)

Why and how was Isaiah's perspective supposed to be different from those who rejected God's message (8:11-15)? (See 8:12 and 8:13 notes.)

Who does God trust to help preserve and promote His Word?

APPLICATION:

Do you ever feel unworthy to worship or serve God? If so, you're not only right; you're not alone. Even the prophets were aware of their inadequacy compared with God's incredible presence and power. But when they humbled themselves and yielded to God's control, they spoke with His authority, served in His supernatural power, and fulfilled His highest purposes. If we are willing to submit to God's purifying work in our lives, He will send us to deliver His Good News of forgiveness and new life through Christ.

Look at chapter 8, verses 11-17. In what ways can you apply these verses to your own life?

Action Step: Where is your trust? Are you trusting anyone or anything above God for help, security, or peace? If you find that anything other than God is your source. Ask for forgiveness, then take God at His Word. He will take care of you. Trust Him with all issues and situations in your life, and patiently wait for Him to work things out according to His plans.

PRAY:

Give God thanks for His removing your guilt and forgiving your sins. Ask Him to help you live a life that allows you to represent Him, spread His message, and serve His purposes.