

Isaiah 6
Martyrs: Isaiah

Send me ...

I. Calling

- A. Sanctified Lips
- B. Isaiah's Gospel

II. Confidence

- A. In God
- B. In God's Word

III. Conflict

- A. A Sinful Nation
- B. Responds to Good News

... without reservation.

Children, Listen ...

1. What was Isaiah called to do?
2. Was his message to make people feel good or repent of their sins?
3. Where did he get courage to do what he was called to do?
4. What happened to Isaiah?
5. Do people who bring the Gospel to people have to be prepared to suffer?
If so, where can they find courage?

No Qualifiers

The call of a prophet requires absolute trust in God and total commitment to his Word. It also requires a dogged commitment to fulfill their calling without reservation. The greatest of prophets were still weak humans, so there were times of doubt and fear (and worse if you take Jonah into consideration!), but once they counted the cost and put their hand to the plow there was not turning back. No matter what the response of the people might be, they were not to back down from the truth. Isaiah was told at the outset that he was being sent to an obstinate people. Nonetheless he was to bring them the bad news about their sin and the good news about salvation. It would not be easy and it would eventually cost him his very life. Jesus' preachers are called to the same level of commitment – trust the Lord – declare His truth – and don't back down. It may not be easy, and for some it may cost their very lives. In other words, "Here I am, send me" does not come with qualifiers.

We are not all called to be preachers, teachers or missionaries, but we are all called to trust in the Lord and spread His Word. Surely we have counted the cost of following Him ... but have we counted the cost of bearing His name and speaking His Word?