

### **Isaiah 6:5-8**

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!"

#### **Meditation:**

This passage from Isaiah has always had a penetrating influence on my Christian walk. The impact of being compelled through the grace of God to share His word with those around me, while being honest to my own sin is highlighted to me in this passage of scripture. This prophet begins by proclaiming his unworthiness for the task at hand and ends this passage in a declaration of his willingness to be sent. The change here is God's ability to change us into a clean instrument that can be used for His service. This prophet's lips were purified by the fire of God and he was made ready to do the Lord's work only after he admitted his need for God's cleansing agent.

Many times when I pray in preparation to speaking God's word, I will touch my lips with my fingers and ask God to purify my lips and help me to commit my service to Him. This is a personal reminder that only God can make a person holy and usable in His service. A time of preparation with God should result in rejoicing, "Here am I, send me!"

#### **Paraphrase of Text:**

I was unclean to proclaim the Lord's word, but he purified me with fire which came from the altar of sacrifice. Now as He looks for servants to do His will, I can boldly say "here I am Lord, you have made me ready, send me!"

#### **Prayer:**

Dear heavenly Father, please teach me to always depend on you and your holiness. Thank you for providing the sacrifice for my sin in your Son, my savior. Enable me through Jesus' righteousness to be a willing vessel for your Holy Spirit. Please use me in your work. Here am I send me! In Jesus name, Amen.