

# Commission My Soul – Ready for the Commission

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6-27-2010

## Commission Defined

### Commission –

1. an authorization or command to act in a prescribed manner or to perform prescribed acts<sup>1</sup>
2. authority to act for, in behalf of, or in place of another<sup>2</sup>

As a church we have received a commission you for our city, for your campus, for your workplace, for your family, for your generation. It's his desire that the kingdom of God be established in your sphere of influence and he's laying on you a command to act. God wants to show up in your school and so He's sending you with authority to act on his behalf.

A commission is more than just words - it's a command to act. *These signs shall follow those who believe...*

Pastor Steve made this statement up at camp – remarkable people do remarkable things. God is calling you to do something. He's calling you to action. He's calling you to intentionally go into action with the message of the cross.

This morning I want to look at the makeup of a commission and see what's necessary to receive one and walk in one –

Open your Bibles to Isaiah 6

*Isaiah 6:8 - Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying:*

*"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"<sup>3</sup>*

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<sup>1</sup>Merriam-Webster, I. (1996, c1993). *Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary*. Includes index. (10th ed.). Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.: Merriam-Webster.

<sup>2</sup>Merriam-Webster, I. (1996, c1993). *Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary*. Includes index. (10th ed.). Springfield, Mass., U.S.A.: Merriam-Webster.

God has been asking this question for thousands of years. He's been looking down on the planet and asking the question – Who will go?

Jesus said, "The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the laborers *are* few."<sup>4</sup>

Anywhere there's people, God is asking the question, who will go for me? Who will receive my commission? Who will go to Nampa High School? Who will go to Skyview High School? Who will go to that baseball team? Who will go to the Boys and Girls club? Who will go?" IS ANYONE READY TO GO?!?!

*Romans 10:14-15 - <sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach unless they are sent?<sup>5</sup>*

The sending is here – the question tonight is “are we ready to go?”

I believe that God wants us to do a work in our hearts this morning and make us ready for our commission. I believe that Family Life Church is entering into a season of harvest and growth. I believe that many of us are awakening to the commission that God has placed on our lives. But in order to walk in our commission, we must be prepared for it.

Whenever there's about to be a serious change in your life, it's important to prepare for it.

- If you are going to move – it takes preparation
- If you are going to get married – it takes preparation
- If you are going into a new career – you've got to prepare for it

How many of you have ever had surgery?

Surgery is good, it comes to fix whatever is wrong in your body.

[Tell the story of getting my wisdom teeth out and waking up in the middle]

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<sup>3</sup>*The New King James Version*. 1982 (Is 6:8). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

<sup>4</sup>*The New King James Version*. 1982 (Mt 9:37). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

<sup>5</sup>*The New King James Version*. 1982 (Ro 10:14-15). Nashville: Thomas Nelson.

If you are going to go in for a major surgery on your body where they put you to sleep they make you prepare for that surgery. How? They don't allow you to eat food. They force you to fast starting the day before. Why? This produces a cleansing in your body so that your body is ready for all that is going to take place the next day.

## Preparing for the Commission

How did Isaiah prepare for his commission? How did he get to the point where he heard God crying out – Whom shall I send? Who will go??

Isaiah 6:1

1. Isaiah had an encounter with God
  - a. *Vs 1-2 - In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.*
  - b. King Uzziah was a king in Israel who was cursed with leprosy for his pride before the Lord. Uzziah represents the pride of man before God. And there came a year where Uzziah died. It was a certain time.
  - c. There has got to come a day for you when your pride dies. You want an encounter with the Lord? Start with humility. Pride is disgusting to God. When we try to stay in control of our lives and work everything out ourselves we're going to have a hard time encountering God. In the year that pride died...Isaiah saw the Lord.
  - d. And the vision was of God seated on His throne – this was not an encounter with a baby in a manger. This was an encounter with the King. This was an encounter with God's authority.
    - i. In those days, the man that was seated on a throne had the power to snap his fingers and execute judgment. You don't mess around with someone seated on the throne.
    - ii. If you're ever going to pursue the commission of God over your life, you've got to have a born again encounter with God where you submit your whole life to Him in humility. Some of you think you're

Christians here today, but you've never totally submitted your will to His will.

2. Isaiah received a vision of holiness

- a. *Vs 3 - 3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"*
- b. The cherubim around the throne were crying out, "Holy, Holy, Holy.
- c. Isaiah came into a direct encounter with The Holy One. He's not just Holy – He's Holy Holy Holy.
- d. You won't understand your need for cleansing and purging of sin if your standard of holiness is the rest of the people around you. This is one of our classic teenager excuses – "but mom, everybody is doing it". The standard isn't everybody else, the standard is God and his holiness.
- e. You're not being conformed into the image of your most passionate Christian friend...you're being conformed into the image of Christ!
- f. Today as we're preparing for our commission I believe there are many of you that need to embrace the vision of holiness that God has for your life. Living holy isn't some stuffy, boring life. Living holy is edgy...it's controversial. It causes you to stand out like a light in the darkness.

3. Isaiah came under the shaking of the Lord

- a. *Vs 4 - 4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.*
- b. The voice of the Lord was shaking the doorposts
- c. I've been watching God's voice shake things loose in young people's lives this week. Whether it's stuff from your past that you need to release, whether it's your pride and unbelief, whether it's your dreams that you're laying at God's feet, or maybe a sport, a guy, a hobby. God has been shaking us.
- d. Today God is asking for a response to His shaking. [Annie's comment on the field about SOE – once I verbalized it, I felt peace]

4. Isaiah found the place of repentance

- a. *Vs 5 - 5 So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts."*
- b. The word undone means "ruined or totally destroyed". Isaiah was coming apart at the seams with his revelation of his life compared to God's life.

- c. His “unclean lips” reveal that he had an unclean heart. Jesus said that from the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. So whatever is coming out of your mouth reveals what is actually in your heart. Isaiah knew what was coming out of his mouth was unclean
  - d. Isaiah also recognized that those around him were unclean as well. He had surrounded himself with unclean people and had become just like them.
  - e. “You’ll never bring a message of repentance to the world unless you know the place of repentance yourself.”
5. Isaiah received the cleansing of the Lord
- a. *Vs 6-7<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup> And he touched my mouth with it, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.”*
  - b. There is no sin that is beyond the cleansing power of God. He died for all sin. From the littlest lies to the most horrible acts. God’s forgiving and cleansing power is greater than any act or thought you have ever committed.
  - c. The word “purged” is the Hebrew word “to atone”. It speaks of the atoning work of Jesus for us on the cross. Jesus died on the cross so you could be totally reconciled to God. Your sin has been paid for and totally dealt with once you’ve repented of it. Jesus paid the price for all sin upon the cross.
  - d. The image of purging and cleansing was a hot coal from the fire touching the lips of Isaiah. Repentance can be a painful process. The fire of purging and cleansing does not feel good to your flesh – but the cleansing at the end feels so good.
  - e. Pastor Andrew made a great point up at camp about the pain of giving up what God is asking for. Nobody up here is going to lie to you and tell you it doesn’t hurt. Of course it hurts – your heart is attached to it. But it’s certainly for your benefit. God always has your best interest in mind.

Once Isaiah had prepared, the Bible goes on to say that he heard the voice of the Lord calling him. It was only after he had encountered God, Holy and seated on the throne. It was after the shaking, his repentance and the cleansing the God brought. It was after total humility and brokenness that He began to hear the voice of the Lord crying out – Whom shall I send??

And Isaiah's response was "God, here am I. Send me. Commission my soul"