

1. When is the last time you made a desperate request of God? What were the circumstances driving your desperation? What made you decide to bring your desperation to God and not somewhere or to someone else?

2. Read Isaiah 64:1–2. What is the situation into which Isaiah is prophesying? What correlations might we make with our world today? What two bold requests does Isaiah make of God? How can our prayers reflect Isaiah’s prayers with the same kind of boldness?

3. Read Isaiah 6:3–4. How does knowing how God has worked in the past encourage us for what to expect in the present and in the future?

4. Read Isaiah 64:4–5. What requirements does God have for those who are making their requests of him? Why can it be such a challenge to walk accordingly with God?

5. Read Isaiah 64:5–7. How does our need for repentance come through in these verses? Why is it so hard sometimes to get to a place of repentance? What must we believe about God or about ourselves in order to see that realized?

6. Read Isaiah 64:8–9. Describe what it looks like in real terms for us to be the clay and God to be our potter.

7. What is the Lord asking of you as a result of what you’ve heard in today’s sermon? To whom are you directing your desperation? Take a few moments to pray the italicized prayers from the outline and ask God to make you ready for all the redemptive things he wants to do in and through you today.