



Life of Christ

Simeon and Anna See Jesus

Luke 2:22-40

Teacher's Lesson for children



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Younger Verse

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

Older Verse

Choose for yourselves whom you will serve...as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. Joshua 24:15

Welcome Time

Ask the kids if they got a nice present for Christmas. Ask them how they felt when they opened their gifts. Explain that today's lesson is about a gift (promise) that God gave. Have them listen to see what happened.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

When Jesus was 8 days old, Mary and Joseph took him up to the church temple. It was a special time for a baby. Joseph brought 2 young birds with him. He would give them to God. It was Joseph's way of telling God "thank you" for Jesus. It also was a way of dedicating Jesus to God. That means that Jesus would always be in God's hands and they would teach Him about God.

Suddenly a man named Simeon came to the couple and Jesus. He was so excited. He asked Mary if he could hold Jesus. Mary knew that Simeon was a man that loved God. He had been at the church many times.

Simeon took the baby and thanked God. He explained that God had promised him a special gift. He would see God's son (Jesus) before he died. Simeon told Mary and Joseph that Jesus was God's son. He told them that Jesus was the only way for people to go to Heaven. Simeon had such a peace on his face. He was so joyous that God loved him and us so much.

Joseph and Mary were amazed. Then Simeon told them that many people would love Him and others would not accept Him.

After Simeon left, another person came. Anna had also been at the church a long time. She listened to God and told people what He said. When she saw Jesus, she told everyone around that He would be the way for us to go to Heaven. Mary and Joseph smiled and thanked Anna.

After they went to the temple, Mary and Joseph and Jesus traveled back to

Lesson Goals

Understand that God loves us and wants us to be in Heaven with Him
Tell others about Jesus and invite them to church
See how Simeon and Anna were Loyal to God

Nazareth, the place where they lived. They taught Jesus and He began to grow up. He became strong and smart. He learned many things about God and the Bible.

God is so good to us. He gave us Jesus! Jesus is the **ONLY** way we can go to Heaven. We must trust Him in our hearts. He will come into our lives and stay with us forever. What a gift! Would you like to do this? Talk to me about it.

We can learn two things from this lesson. First, God was loyal and faithful to us. God kept his promise to Simeon and Anna and He keeps His promises to us. The best promise He kept was when God promised to send His Son, Jesus. Just as promised, God sent Jesus as a way for us to go to Heaven, if we believe and trust Him.

Another lesson is how Simeon and Anna were faithful and loyal to God through their life. When someone believes in Jesus, they must begin to live their life for Him **all the time**. A person doesn't just believe in Jesus and then do the things they want. A person must change and do the things that please God. Simeon and Anna did what pleased God and God blessed them. They got to see His Son, Jesus! Are you faithful and loyal to God? Do you continue to do things God's way, even after you go home from church? God wants us to love Him and do things His way all the time.

Learning Activities

There are lots of fun activities for the kids. Pick what helps your group!

Memory Verse Activities

We all have to make a choice about Jesus. Will you serve Jesus or not?

Prayer Time

Circle up and pray. Remember to mention special needs and answers to prayers. Remind them that they have to make a choice to follow Jesus.

Snack Time/CleanUp

Clean up and hand out snacks. Maybe find some fun blowing horns to celebrate the new year in two days!



Preschool Lesson
For
Simeon and Anna

Wrap up a doll in blankets and tell the story. You may want to drape blankets or sheets around you to help dramatize the story.

Mary and Joseph traveled to church with baby Jesus when He was 8 days old. (For young children, count to eight) He was so little and probably cooed and gurgled as they carried Him to church. Today was a special day for Jesus. Joseph carried 2 birds and gave them to God as a way of saying “Thank You” to God for Jesus. It was also a way to tell Jesus that they would take care of Jesus and always teach Him about God.

As they were walking, a man named Simeon came up to them. He was an older man that loved God very much.

Simeon took the baby and thanked God. He explained that God had promised him a special gift. God promised him that he would see God’s Son. Simeon knew that Jesus was God’s Son. He told Mary and Joseph that Jesus was the only way for people to go to Heaven. Simeon was so excited because God loved us so much that He sent Jesus.

Joseph and Mary smiled. They knew that Jesus was special and now others knew too. Simeon told them that many people would love Jesus and others would not.

Then another person came up to Mary and Joseph. It was Anna. She had also been at the church a long time. She listened to God and told people what He said. When she saw Jesus, she told everyone around that He would be the way for us to go to Heaven. Mary and Joseph thanked Anna for her kind words.

After they went to the temple, Mary and Joseph traveled back to Nazareth, the place where they lived. They taught Jesus and He began to grow up. He became strong and smart. He learned many things about God and the Bible.

God is so good. Let’s thank Him for sending Jesus into our world!

Sing “God is so good.”

Hands-On Activities
For
Simeon and Anna

Make a freeze frame of some of the scenes in the story. Dress up and let them “freeze” into position. Scene ideas may be traveling, meeting Simeon, or meeting Anna.

Make the paper puppets in the packet and retell the lesson.

What does it mean to be loyal to God? How did Simeon and Anna remain loyal to God? How can you be loyal to God at home, at school, with friends, etc.?

Simeon and Anna were loyal to God. They were faithful and trusted God and knew that He would keep His promise for them to see His Son, Jesus.
