

# JESUS WAS DEDICATED



**Bible Reference:** Luke 2

**Date:** 4/12/26

**Grade:** PreK /Kindergarten

**2nd Service**

## Memory Verse:

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

## Big Picture Question:

**Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save us.**

## Christ Connection

- Simeon and Anna saw that God kept His promise to send a Savior. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins and, like Simeon and Anna, we should tell others the good news.

## Schedule

- **Welcome/ Intro Activity**.....5 minutes
- **Kids Worship @ 11:00**.....15-20 minutes
- **Circle Time and Bible Story**.....10 minutes
- **Movement Activity**.....10 minutes
- **Craft**.....5-7 minutes
- **Music**.....5 minutes
- **Friends from Afar**.....5-7 minutes
- **Prayer and Bible Verse**.....10 minutes
- **Snack/ Discussion Time**.....5-7 minutes
- **Additional Activities**.....As Needed

## Notes and Reminders

Happy April! We are so excited to start learning about the New Testament with the kiddos from this week forward! We are starting in Luke 2 this week and will move through the New Testament over the next year!



# SHEPHERD BIBLE STUDY

The story of Jesus' dedication in the temple further reveals Him to be the expected **Messiah**—the chosen One promised to bring salvation to all who repent and believe. Here we discover that Simeon and Anna were patiently waiting for God's **Messiah** to enter the world, and through their words, we learn that Jesus is worthy of worship and that He would usher in salvation and redemption for both the Israelites and the Gentiles.

We can also see a correlation between Simeon's words and those of the Old Testament prophet Isaiah, who said:

- "And the glory of the Lord will appear, and all humanity together will see it." (Isaiah 40:5)

- "I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people and a light to the nations." (42:6)

- "All the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God." (52:10)

These Old Testament prophecies, written long before Christ was born, were receiving their first sparks of fulfillment through His arrival.

Simeon and Anna were well-acquainted with the Scriptures and believed in God's promise of the coming **Messiah**. Luke 2, verse 27 tells us that the Spirit led Simeon into the temple to see Jesus face to face. In verse 38, Anna praised God in the temple, declaring Jesus to be the promised Redeemer for Jerusalem. Simeon and Anna intimately knew the God of their salvation and believed by faith that Jesus really was their long-awaited **Messiah**.

As you lead your kids this week, help them understand how Jesus is worthy of our worship. Lead them to look to God's **Word** to see that Jesus really is the Son of God who made the way to save people from their sins.

Ask the Lord to guide you as you proclaim His power to save, just as Simeon and Anna did centuries ago. **May** you be found faithful and expectantly waiting for the **Messiah's** return, beholding His glory and declaring His good news to all who will listen.



# JUNIOR SHEPHERD HIGHLIGHT

The story of Jesus being brought to the temple shows that He really is the **Messiah**—the One God promised to send to save people who turn to Him and believe. In this story, we meet Simeon and Anna, who had been waiting a long time for God's promised Savior. When they saw Jesus, they recognized Him right away. They knew He was special and worthy of worship. They also understood that Jesus came to bring salvation not just to the Israelites, but to all people.

Simeon and Anna knew the Scriptures well and trusted God's promises. The Holy Spirit led Simeon to the temple so he could see Jesus. Anna also praised God and told others that Jesus was the promised Savior. They truly believed that Jesus was the **Messiah** they had been waiting for.

Ask God to help you share this good news with others, just like Simeon and Anna did. Be ready and excited for Jesus to come again, and keep telling others about Him.

Welcome to the first Sunday after Easter! We are now learning about the New Testament, beginning with the early life of Jesus. As we learn these stories, help the kids see how Jesus' life filled the prophecy (or promises) about him that we learned about earlier in the year. Whenever something relates to prophecy about Jesus, it will be part of our story for the day!

Today, we will learn how Jesus fills the promises God made to Simeon and Anna. God had promised Simeon that he would see Jesus before Simeon died. Anna had devoted her life to loving God and also celebrated when she saw Jesus.

This week, what can you do to celebrate the things God is doing in your life? Maybe you can thank him for the simple things like having lunch each day, or a place to sleep every night. Or maybe something really big happens that you can praise God for, like seeing a friend you miss, or scoring points at an important game and helping your team win! When we look carefully and listen to God, it is easy to see how he is moving and working in our life!



# OUTLINE



## Welcome and Intro Activity

5 minutes

Welcome the children and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Hide several people figures around the room in easy-to-find locations. Consider hiding two female figures and two male figures to represent *Mary*, *Anna*, *Joseph*, and *Simeon*. Hide the Big Picture Question Poster by one of the people figures. Allow kids to find all the figures, instructing them to work together to collect them all and carry them with them to the figure by the hidden Big Picture Question. Once at the hidden poster, read the big picture question and answer to the children.
- SAY Welcome to church today. I'm so glad you're here. I'm so proud of you for finding all the people figures that appear in our Bible story today. Our big picture question asks, Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save us. Today we will learn about Simeon and Anna. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. They loved God, and they recognized Jesus as God's promised Savior and as His one and only Son.

## Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

### Thinking Activity

- Set out baby care items on a table. Allow kids to look at the items. Talk to the kids about what they see as they come to group time and sit down.
- SAY I brought a few baby care items today for us to look at. Can you tell me what they are used for? [Allow responses.] In our Bible story today, we will learn about the first time Baby Jesus went to the temple with His family. Listen to hear about His day at the temple.

### Bible Story

- After Jesus was born, *Joseph* and *Mary* took Him to the temple where people went to pray and worship God. God had given rules to His people. One rule was, "When the first son is born, his parents must present him to God." *Joseph* and *Mary* obeyed God. That day, God told a man named *Simeon* to go to the temple. *Simeon* loved God and knew that God was going to send someone special to save people from sin. God even told *Simeon*, "Before you die, you will see the One who will rescue people from sin." *Simeon* saw Jesus at the temple, and he picked up Jesus in his arms. *Simeon* was so happy! He said, "God, You kept Your promise!" A woman named *Anna* was also in the temple. When *Anna* saw Jesus, she thanked the Lord. Then she told other people good news about God. After *Mary* and *Joseph* presented Jesus to God at the temple, they went back home. Jesus grew up, and He was strong, healthy, and wise.





### Christ Connection

- Simeon and Anna saw that God kept His promise to send a Savior. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins and, like Simeon and Anna, we should tell others the good news.

### Review Activity

- Show kids a basket and give each child at least one baby care item. While looking at the Bible Story Picture Poster, ask questions about the Bible story. Invite kids to add the items to the basket for each question and answer. Sample questions may include “What did people do at the temple?” (pray and worship God), “Who took Jesus to the temple?” (Mary and Joseph), “Who was the man who picked Jesus up into his arms?” (Simeon), “Who was Anna?” (a woman in the temple). Feel free to add other questions depending on the number of kids in the group.
- **SAY** At the beginning of our group time, we looked at and named some baby items. In our story, Jesus was still a baby when His parents took Him to the temple for the first time. They went to dedicate Jesus to God. While they were there, Simeon and Anna came to see Jesus. They knew He was God’s Son and the Savior God had promised to send many years before He was born. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. We can worship Jesus and tell others about Him, too. God kept His promise to send a Savior. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others the good news about Jesus.

### Movement Activity

10 minutes

Play worship music and blow bubbles as kids move to the music and pop the bubbles. Periodically stop the music, stop blowing bubbles, and tell children to turn to a friend and say something they know about Jesus. Tell them to share the good news. Give examples of what they might say such as, “Jesus loves you” or “Jesus is God’s Son.” (Note: Blow bubbles outside or in a carpeted area in the room.)

**SAY** When Simeon and Anna saw Baby Jesus, they worshiped Him. They held the Son of God in their arms. Simeon and Anna saw that God kept His promise to send a Savior. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and, like Simeon and Anna, we should tell others this good news.





### **Craft**

**5-7 minutes**

Find the white pages in the bin with the Bible verse written on it. Distribute prepared papers, markers, crayons, and assorted stickers to each table. Allow kids to decorate the page. Demonstrate how to roll the paper up to create a scroll. Give each kid a piece of yarn. Help them tie their scrolls closed.

**SAY** Books of the Bible used to be written on scrolls. People would read these scrolls at the temple. Let's read our key passage phrase together as we roll up our scrolls, 'God loved the world and gave his one and only Son to everyone who believes in him. John 3:16.'



### **Music**

**5 minutes**

You will find music and other video resources on the USB which is already plugged into the TV. Feel free to play the videos in any order you like! You may distribute the Activity Page for the children to complete at this time, if they would prefer to sit and listen to the music.

### **Friends From Afar**

**5-7 minutes**

You will find today's activity for Friends from Afar in the Binder on the counter. The information for this month's Global Partner family and an activity to learn about where they are serving are included.





### Prayer and Bible Verse

10 minutes

Prayer (Use these words, or your own, to pray about today's Bible lesson. Take time to listen to prayer requests from the children and pray for them as well!)

- God, thank You for always keeping Your promises. Thank you for sending Your Son, Jesus, to save us from our sin. Amen.

### Bible Verse

- Read the key passage phrase as a group. Learn the key passage phrase together while standing up and sitting down on alternating words.
- **SAY** In our Bible story, *Mary* and Joseph took Baby Jesus to the temple to dedicate Him to God. While they were there, Simeon and Anna saw Jesus and knew exactly who He was. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. Our key passage phrase remind us that God loves the world so much, He sent Jesus, His one and only Son. Jesus is God's promised Savior. We can worship Jesus, too!

### Snack and Discussion Time

5-7 minutes

Have children sanitize their hands before passing out snacks and cups of water. During this time, you can connect with children and discuss questions regarding the lesson.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (Answers will vary.)
2. What were some things in the Bible story that made you happy or sad? (Answers will vary.)
3. How did Simeon feel when he saw Baby Jesus? (Simeon was very happy!)
4. What did Anna do after she saw Jesus? (She thanked God and told other people good news about Jesus.)
5. What good news can you tell others about Jesus?(Answers will vary. Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save us.)
6. Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save us.

**SAY** Jesus was a baby when *Mary* and Joseph took Him to the temple. A man named Simeon told *Mary* that Jesus would be a special leader. A woman named Anna was also in the temple. She thanked God when she saw Jesus and told other people the good news. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus and saw that God kept His promise to send a Savior. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and, like Simeon and Anna, we should tell others this good news.





## Additional Activities

As Needed

### Make a Play Dough Temple

- Distribute play dough and play dough tools to each child. Place the Bible Story Picture Poster nearby. Talk with kids about what the temple may have looked like. Encourage them to build a temple out of play dough.
- **SAY** When Simeon went to the temple and saw Jesus and held Him in his arms, Simeon was so happy. Anna was happy, too, when she saw Jesus at the temple. Anna told other people good news about God. Both Simeon and Anna knew God kept His promise to send a Savior! We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others the good news about Jesus.

### Measure and Match

- Cut strips of paper at varying lengths, making multiple strips. Invite children to a measurement station with a variety of different-size items from around the room and the paper strips. Prompt kids to try to match the length of the paper strips to the different items.
- **SAY** Some of these items are tall, and some are short. These things will not grow and change, but you will. Every day you are growing; Jesus also grew! When Jesus was about a week old, His parents took Him to the temple. Two people named Simeon and Anna knew Jesus was the one God promised to send to save the world from sin. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus.



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



the **GOSPEL** PROJECT



### Jesus Was Dedicated

Luke 2

**STORY POINT:**

Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:**

Simeon and Anna saw that God had kept His promise to send a Savior. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins and, like Simeon and Anna, we should tell others the good news.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

John 3:16

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:**

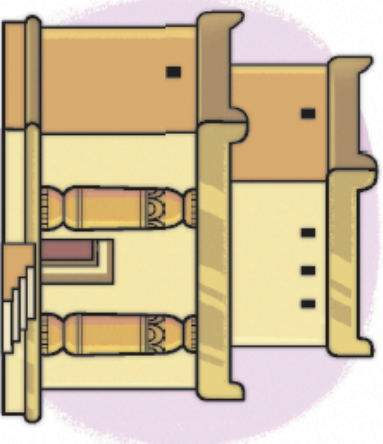
Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of God who came to earth to save us.

Scan the QR code for resources to use at home!



# Circle What Is Different

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus at the temple. Find and circle what is different in each row.



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