

JESUS WAS DEDICATED

Bible Reference: Luke 2

Date: 4/12/26

Grade: PreK /Kindergarten

1st 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
 - **Kindergarten in Large Group Lesson @ 9:20**.....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
- **Group Game**.....10 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 each child and mark them as present on the attendance sheet on the clipboard by the door.

- Lead the kids to sit on the floor. Encourage them to pat a steady beat on their laps while practicing the following call-and-response rhyme: “Let’s go to church.” (Echo) “Where we pray and sing.” (Echo) “Let’s go to church.” (Echo) “What shall we bring?” (Echo) Invite a child to name an item, silly or not, that might be brought to church. After each round, say more items while patting the steady beat.
- **SAY** We brought many things to church with us! In today’s Bible story, **Mary** and **Joseph** brought someone very special to the temple. They brought **God’s Son, Jesus**, to the temple to be dedicated.

Circle Time and Bible Story

10 minutes

Thinking Activity

- Talk about things children must wait for, like birthdays or special holidays.
- **SAY** If your birthday is a long time away, you’ll have to wait, wait, wait a long, long time. It’s hard to wait. But isn’t it great when your birthday is finally here? In today’s Bible story, a man named **Simeon** and a woman named **Anna** waited a very long time for someone very special. **Simeon** loved **God**, and **God** promised that before **Simeon** died, he would see **Jesus**, the **One** who would rescue people from sin. **Simeon** and **Anna** worshiped **Jesus** after they finally met Him.

Bible Story

- When **Jesus** was a baby, **Joseph** and **Mary** took Him to the temple. The temple was the place where people went to pray and worship **God**. **Many** years before, **God** had given rules to all the people of **Israel**. One rule was, “When a woman’s first son is born, his parents must present him to **God**.” **Joseph** and **Mary** obeyed **God**. A man named **Simeon** was in **Jerusalem**, and he loved **God**. He knew that **God** had promised to send someone special to save people from sin. **God** had told **Simeon**, “Before you die, you will see the **One** who will rescue people from sin.” **Simeon** trusted **God**. That day, **God** told **Simeon** to go to the temple. **Simeon** saw **Jesus** there, and he picked up **Jesus** in his arms. **Simeon** was so happy! He prayed, “**God**, You kept Your promise. I have seen the **One** who will save people from sin.” **Mary** and **Joseph** heard **Simeon** say those important words. **Simeon** told **Mary** that **Jesus** would be a very special leader, but that some people wouldn’t follow Him. **Simeon** also told **Mary** that some things would happen to **Jesus** that would make **Mary** sad. Another woman was in the temple. Her name was **Anna**. When **Anna** saw **Jesus**, she thanked the **Lord**. Then she told other people good news about **God**.





- **Mary and Joseph did everything they were supposed to do at the temple. Then they went back home. Jesus grew up, and He was strong, healthy, and wise.**

Christ Connection

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

Review Activity

- **Before the session, gather four index cards. Draw a stick figure to represent Simeon on one card. On each of the others, draw an Anna stick figure, a Baby Jesus stick figure, and Mary & Joseph. Attach the cards to the wall in four locations around the room. Ask review questions where the answers are Simeon, Anna, Baby Jesus, or Mary and Joseph. Instruct children to stand by the appropriate card to show their answers.**
 - **1. Who took Baby Jesus to the temple? (Mary and Joseph)**
 - **2. What special person did God say Simeon would see before he died? (Baby Jesus)**
 - **3. What was the name of the old woman who saw Jesus at the temple and thanked God for Him? (Anna)**
 - **4. Who worshiped Jesus after they saw Him at the temple? (Simeon & Anna)**
- **SAY Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. God kept His promise when He sent Jesus to be their Savior. Like Simeon and Anna, we can worship Jesus for being our Savior. We can tell others about Him too.**

Movement Activity

10 minutes

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.





Craft

5-7 minutes

Prior to the session, print a copy of the “Story Point Labels” on adhesive address labels and punch six holes around the perimeter of a paper plates. Distribute a paper plate and address label to each child. Assist the kids in threading chenille stem pieces through the holes and tying jingle bells to create tambourines. Use masking tape to cover the sharp ends of the chenille stems. Play and sing worship music while recalling portions of today’s Bible story. Open a Bible to Luke 2 and point to the place where we read that Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. Talk about different ways to worship God.

SAY Singing songs and playing music for God is one way people can worship Him, but there are many other ways. Anything we do to show God how much we love Him is worship. Simeon and Anna saw that God kept His promise to send Jesus to be their Savior. They prayed and thanked God, Simeon talked to *Mary* and Joseph about Jesus, and they both told people the good news. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. How can you worship Jesus? [Allow responses.]



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. Necessary supplies are located in your bin.





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 keeping Your promises. You promised Simeon that he would see Jesus, and he did! Please help us understand that Jesus came to save us from our sins. Give us courage to tell others the good news about Jesus. In His name, Amen.

Bible Verse

- Read the key passage aloud. Invite kids to sit in a circle. Begin passing a baby doll around the circle. Say each word of the key passage aloud each time the doll is passed to another child. Begin by passing the doll slowly, speeding up as kids become more confident in remembering the passage.
- **SAY** God sent Jesus, His only Son, into the world to be our Savior. Because of Jesus, everyone who believes in Him can have life with God forever. In today's Bible story, Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus. We can worship and believe in 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.





Group Game

10 minutes

- Guide children to sit in a circle. Explain that you will whisper into the first child's ear a sentence and then each child will whisper in the ear of the person next to them all the way around the circle. When the sentence gets to the last person, she is to tell the group what she heard.
- **SAY** That was fun passing along a message! It reminds me that God passed along promises to His people—promises that He would send a Savior. God really does keep His promises. 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.

Additional Activities

As Needed

Work People Puzzles

- Print the "All Ages Puzzles" printable on heavyweight paper and cut along the dotted lines. Offer puzzles for children to assemble. Point out that some people in the puzzles are younger and others are older.
- **SAY** I see someone in a puzzle that is close to the same age as you! Do you see a baby? A grandparent? [Allow responses.] In today's Bible story, Baby Jesus' family went to the temple. While they were there, they met an old man named Simeon and an old woman named Anna. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus because they knew He is God's Son.

Build with Blocks

- Use the lego blocks in your room. If you would like, divide the legos between tables so that children can work in smaller groups. Encourage them to build the temple. Retell the Bible story while children build. Display the Bible Story Picture Poster to support the story retelling.
- **SAY** Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to present Him to God. Anna and Simeon were already at the temple. Anna and Simeon worshiped Jesus. They knew He was the promised Savior. Jesus was just a baby, but they knew why God had sent Him. Jesus grew up and He was strong, healthy, and wise. 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.



Thank You, God

INSTRUCTIONS: Anna and Simeon worshiped God and thanked Him for sending Jesus. In the space below, draw something you are thankful for.



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!











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