

Bible Lesson

5. A Dream Come True: Simeon and Anna

Luke 2



All who heard were amazed at the words that were said about Jesus.

Luke 2:17

A Dream Come True: Simeon and Anna

Old Simeon came to the temple every day. God told him, "Simeon, you will not die until your eyes see the Messiah." The Messiah is the Son of God.

The Jewish people had not heard from God for hundreds of years. But Simeon did not give up. He looked at every baby boy that parents brought into the temple. Could he be the Messiah?

Was it baby Obed with his curly, black hair? No.
Was it little Jacob with his tight fists? No.
Was it tiny Eli with his loud cry? No.

One day, Mary and Joseph walked into the temple. Baby Jesus was in their arms. Simeon looked up. It was as if a light from heaven shone upon this newborn. Simeon knew – he is the one!

Simeon held Jesus in his arms. He said, "Now I can die in peace. My eyes have seen the one who saves. This baby is a light for all people of all lands of all time!"

An old woman named Anna lived in the temple. Anna also said, "Yes, he is the Messiah." Joseph and Mary were amazed at the words that were said about Jesus.

Questions

1. Who was Simeon waiting for?
2. What is the Messiah? Who is the Messiah?
3. How did Mary and Joseph feel about the words spoken by Simeon and Anna?
4. Have you been waiting for Jesus?

Pray this Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

You are the Messiah. Thank you for coming to me. I was waiting for you. Thank you for saving me. You are my dream come true.

Amen

Write these words in the letters below: "Jesus - my dream come true."

J E S U S

Story S-t-r-e-tch-ing

5. A Dream Come True

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

Activate Prior Knowledge

- a) Do you have one burning desire - a dream in your heart that you might have to wait for a long time to see it fulfilled?
- b) Have you ever held a newborn? What was it like?
- c) A little baby can't do much. How could baby Jesus be a dream come true?

After you read:

He is the ONE!

Have the kids write down Bible names on index cards, one male name per card. Scatter the cards on the floor facedown. One card has the name of Jesus. The kids sit in a circle around the cards. They pass around a flashlight while saying this jingle: "Messiah, Savior, Lord of Glory. Jesus is the Savior in the story." Whoever holds the flashlight upon the word "story" gets to shine the light upon the cards. He or she flips the card over. If it is not Jesus, discard, and play again. The one who finds the Jesus card wins. His name is above every name.

God as a Baby??

When was the last time you held a baby? They feel so soft, smell so fresh, and look so sweet. The Jewish people were waiting for a conquering superhero as the Messiah, not an innocent little baby. Most of them are still waiting. Yet, the prophets and kings of old spoke about the Messiah. They shouted it from the ancient pages of the Old Testament. Jesus was the Messiah wrapped up in human skin. Wrap a baby doll in "swaddling clothes." Use a long roll of white paper towels. Writing with markers, write directly on the paper towels. Each rectangle will have the name of a book in the Old Testament and then a few words about who the Messiah would be. See the list on page 5. When done, wrap the doll in the paper towels and let the kids unwrap him while telling who the Messiah was. You can tape them to sticks and keep as a scroll of prophecies fulfilled.

God as a Baby? The Messiah would

- Be born of a woman: Genesis 3:15
- Be a descendent of Abraham: Genesis 12:3
- A star would be a sign at his birth: Numbers 24:17
- Be a descendent of David: 2 Samuel 7:12-16
- Be called God's Son: Psalm 2:7-12
- Let his light would shine upon us: Psalm 118:25-29
- Be born of a virgin: Isaiah 7:14
- Come from Galilee: Isaiah 9:1-2
- Come as a baby: Isaiah 9:6
- Come from Nazareth: Matthew 2:23
- Come from Bethlehem: Micah 5:2
- Be called out of Egypt: Hosea 11:1
- Be a son of humans: Daniel 7:13-14
- Come at just the right time: Daniel 9:24-27

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Later in Jesus' Life, the Messiah would

- Come riding on a colt: Zechariah 9:9
- Be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver: Zechariah 11:12-13
- Suffer and take on our suffering: Isaiah 53:3-4
- Die for our sins: Isaiah 53:8
- Be given a grave from a rich man: Isaiah 53:9
- Not sin or lie: Isaiah 53:9
- Die with sinners: Isaiah 53:12
- A voice from the desert would cry out: Isaiah 40:3-5
- Heal people: Isaiah 35:5-6
- Be rejected by his people: Psalm 118:22-24
- Not open his mouth before his accusers: Isaiah 53:7
- Be resurrected: Psalm 16:8-11
- Be forsaken and pierced: Psalm 22:1-31
- Be a chosen servant: Isaiah 42:1

Truth Trek

Simeon and Anna were rewarded with seeing and holding the baby king – Jesus, the Messiah. Why did they get this great privilege? Look through the text of the story for active verbs. Cut the squares below out and hide them around the room in the order they are numbered. Give clues about where each are hidden. Then, go LOOKING and talk about the answers.

Look up together Jeremiah 29:13: “You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”

Truth Trek

1. Old Simeon came to the temple every day. Do you go to church each week?	2. But Simeon did not give up. Do you give up and forget about God?	3. He looked at every baby boy that parents brought into the temple. Are you looking for Jesus? How?
4. Simeon looked up. Do you look up to God in prayer? Often?	5. Simeon knew – he is the one! Do you really know that Jesus is the true God?	6. Simeon held Jesus in his arms. How will God reward you?