LIFE GROUP LEADER'S

Weekly Discussion Guide



Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermons
- Find Life Group resources: <u>abfboone.org/groups/resources</u>

Luke 2:21-35

21 And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

22 And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." 25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, 28 he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

29 "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

30 for my eyes have seen your salvation

31 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

33 And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed 35 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

Sermon Outline:

- I. The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus (21)
- II. The Presentation of Jesus and Purification of Mary (22-24)
- III. The Proclamations of Simeon (25-35)

Life Group Leader Notes:



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•Joseph and Mary did what the angel told them to do, "according to the Law of the Lord." Why does it matter that they were obedient to the Law? What does it matter that Jesus was obedient to the Law?

•Simeon's song is declaring Christ as the salvation to the Gentiles. In that day, his song would have divided a room. Why does Jesus divide a room so easily but other religious figures do not?

•A key part of this week's passage centered on Simeon's praise upon receiving his *nunc dimittis*, or 'permission to depart.' How does Simeon's praise and joy at meeting his life's fulfillment set an example for us as we live after the cross?

• Pastor Scott said that "the cross was not Satan's work." Is that statement surprising to you? How does that truth reorient your thinking about the cross?

•Simeon was a righteous man by grace through faith. Why is it important for us to understand that salvation is by grace through faith? How does grace change the way we pursue right-ness with God? How can it change our pursuits this week?

• Has Christ divided rooms in your family, friends, or coworkers? How does this division reveal the hearts of people? How can we pray for those in our lives who are opposed to Christ?

