



UNIT 19 | SESSION 4 | MARCH 21-22, 2020

2s-3s Lesson

Jesus Was Dedicated

Bible Passage: Luke 2

Story Point: Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus.

Key Passage: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

Christ Connection: We can tell others the good news about Jesus.

KID CONNECT:
30 MINUTES

LARGE GROUP:
15 MINUTES

SMALL GROUP:
15 MINUTES

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

God had chosen Mary and Joseph to be Jesus’ earthly parents. Mary and Joseph named their baby Jesus, obeying God in faith that salvation had indeed come into the world. (See Matt. 1:21.) When the time came for Jesus to be dedicated and Mary to be purified, Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem.

According to the law given to Moses, after a woman gave birth, she was “unclean” and would observe a period of purification. Then she would bring an offering to the priest. (See Lev. 12:1-6.) Jesus was about five weeks old when Mary and Joseph dedicated Him to the Lord and offered the required sacrifice.

Simeon was also at the temple that day, not by mere coincidence but by the Holy Spirit’s leading. (Luke 2:27) Simeon spent his life serving the Lord and looked forward to the day when God would keep His promise to comfort Israel. (See Isa. 57:18.) God promised that Simeon would live long enough to see the Messiah. That day had finally come. Imagine his joy. At last, the Savior was here!

Simeon saw the baby Jesus, took Him in his arms, and praised God. Simeon expressed prophetic praise, trusting by faith that God would keep His promise through this child: “My eyes have seen your salvation” (Luke 2:30). Through Jesus, everyone would be able to see God’s plan. Jesus would

be a light for all the nations. He would bring honor to Israel.

Anna, a prophetess, also praised God. At well over a hundred years old, Anna began to speak about Jesus to everyone who was looking forward to God's bringing salvation to His people.

Today, we can have faith in Jesus and His finished work on the cross for our salvation. When God opens our eyes to the good news of the gospel, we can live and die in peace, for our eyes have seen His salvation. We can joyfully share this good news with others.

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

TAKE A BABY TO CHURCH

(Baby Doll, Baby Clothes, Diaper Bags or Totes, Baby Care Items)

Invite preschoolers to play out taking a baby to church. Encourage a child to dress a doll and pack a diaper bag with baby care items. Arrange chairs to form a car and suggest preschoolers pretend to drive to church. Guide them to play out strapping the doll into a stroller or carrier and walking a baby to class.

SAY • Mary and Joseph did everything they were supposed to do when they took Baby Jesus to the temple. They obeyed God. Jesus grew up, and God was happy with Him. Jesus grew up to be strong, healthy, and wise.

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: OH, HAPPY DAY, VIDEO: JESUS LOVES ME)

Sing "Oh, Happy Day" and "Jesus Loves Me."

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

(CG: GIANT TIMELINE)

(Bible, Bookmark)

Place a bookmark at Luke 2 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Display the open Bible.

SAY • The Bible is the most important book there is because the Bible is God’s Word. God’s Word is true. Today’s Bible story is from the Book of Luke.

Point to the Bible story picture on the giant timeline. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God saves people through His Son, Jesus.

Show the Bible story picture. Ask preschoolers to guess who the people are in the picture and what they are doing.

SAY • The man holding Baby Jesus in this picture is a man named Simeon. Simeon loved God. God had told Simeon that he would not die until he saw Jesus. Listen to the story to hear about the day Simeon saw Jesus.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: JESUS WAS DEDICATED, CG: STORY POINT)

Show the Bible story video.

SAY • After Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph obeyed God and took Him to the temple. Simeon was at the temple that day. He praised God when he met Baby Jesus because he knew Jesus was the Savior God promised.

CHRIST CONNECTION

(CG: CHRIST CONNECTION)

SAY • God had promised His people that a Savior was coming. When Anna saw Mary’s baby, she praised God too. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus because they knew He was the Savior. Jesus came to save people. We can trust Jesus to save us from our wrong choices; and like Simeon and Anna, we can tell others the good news about Jesus!

PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

(CG: KEY PASSAGE)

(Bible, Key Passage Marker)

Place the key passage marker at John 1:1. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage using motions. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying.

“In the beginning was the Word, (*open hands like a book*) and the Word was with God, (*lift book up over head*) and the Word was God. (*point up*)” John 1:1 (*open hands like a book*).

SAY • In this passage, *the Word* is another name for Jesus. God had promised His people a Savior was coming. When Simeon and Anna saw Jesus and held Him, they knew He was the Savior God promised.

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Passage: Luke 2

Story Point: Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus.

Key Passage: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

Christ Connection: We can tell others the good news about Jesus.

WAIT FOR IT

(Timer (optional))

Gather preschoolers together. Suggest a simple action, such as run in place, pat your head, or shake a friend’s hand. Instruct boys and girls to wait to begin moving until a signal is given. Build excitement and finally give the signal for the boys and girls to move. Continue playing and emphasize the waiting, pre-movement time.

SAY • Simeon and Anna waited a long time to meet Jesus. How happy they were when they met Baby Jesus! Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus and told others the good news. We can tell others the good news about Jesus.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: MAKE A WORSHIP STREAMER

(Jumbo Craft Stick, 1 per child, Streamer, 1 per child, Story Point Sticker, 1 per child, Tape)

Tape one end of the streamer to a craft stick to serve as a handle. Help each child stick a Story Point label on their streamer. Play worship music and encourage boys and girls to wave their streamer, sing, and worship Jesus.

SAY • Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus when they saw Him. Anna thanked God, and Simeon was happy. Simeon and Anna knew Jesus was the One who would save people. We can trust Jesus to save us; and like Simeon and Anna, we get to tell others the good news.

KEY PASSAGE WITH MOTIONS

Say the key passage using motions. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying. “In the beginning was the Word, (*open hands like a book*) and the Word was with God, (*lift book up over head*) and the Word was God. (*point up*)” John 1:1 (*open hands like a book*).

GOSPEL GEMS

(Key Passage Card, 1 per group, Bible Story Picture, 1 per group, Small Bibles)

Provide small Bibles for preschoolers to handle. Say the Bible is God's words. Read the key passage card. Open your Bible to Luke 2. Show the Bible story picture as you tell the Bible story. Say the story point and gospel gems. Pray.

- Mary and Joseph took Baby Jesus to the temple.
- Simeon and Anna praised God for Jesus.
- God sent Jesus to earth to be our King.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Big Picture Card & Story Point Coloring Page (optional), 1 per child)

Two & three-year olds may color the optional Story Point coloring page as parents arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool Christ Connection with their child this week.