

SERMON

LUKE - ACTS

SERIES





LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS



HEAD

- ✚ Righteous Parents + children with Revealed Purposes = kids who make Remarkable Progress.
- ✚ Simeon and Hannah model for us the audacity of hope, while WATCHING and WAITING for the Lord to fulfill His word.
- ✚ Jesus' life and ministry is double dichotomy: light for the purpose of being revelation for the Gentiles and glory of Israel; some will ultimately rise because of Him, while others will utterly fall.
- ✚ Poverty is neither a virtue nor a vice. Godliness with contentment is a great benefit.

– Luke 2:21-40 –



HEART

- ✚ Simeon waited decades to see God's promise fulfilled. What promises from God are you currently watching and waiting for, and how can you avoid growing weary in the waiting?
- ✚ Mary and Joseph offered the poor person's sacrifice at the Temple. How does Jesus being born into poverty rather than prosperity reshape your understanding of God's values and the prosperity gospel?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



HEART

- ✚ Simeon's prophecy warned Mary that a sword would pierce her soul. How might knowing future suffering in advance affect a parent's relationship with their child, and what does this teach us about God's transparency with us?
- ✚ The prayer from Proverbs 30 asks for neither poverty nor prosperity but just enough. How does this prayer challenge your own prayers and desires regarding material provision?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



HEART

- ✚ Hannah devoted her widowhood to serving God night and day in the temple for decades. What does her example teach us about redeeming seasons of loss or loneliness for kingdom purposes?
- ✚ The sermon emphasizes that Jesus was passively made strong and filled with wisdom by the Father and Holy Spirit. How does this challenge our culture's emphasis on self-made success, even in spiritual growth?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



HEART

- ✚ Both Simeon and Hannah were positioned in the right place at the right time because of their faithful consistency. What spiritual disciplines or practices might position you to recognize God's movement in unexpected moments?
- ✚ The text describes wisdom as knowledge plus application. In what areas of your life do you possess biblical knowledge that you have failed to apply, and what would it look like to move from foolishness to wisdom in those areas?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



HANDS

✚ This Week's Challenge (Choose One):

- ✚ **Watch and Wait:** Identify one specific promise from Scripture you're waiting for God to fulfill. Commit to praying about it daily this week without growing weary.
- ✚ **Model Obedience:** If you're a parent, identify one area where you can more clearly demonstrate obedience to God's Word in front of your children.

– Luke 2:21-40 –



HANDS

✚ This Week's Challenge (Choose One):

✚ Practice Contentment: Write out Proverbs 30:8-9 and pray it daily, asking God to help you find contentment in your current circumstances.

✚ Embrace Your Purpose: Spend time in prayer asking God to reveal or clarify the specific purpose He has for your life, regardless of your age or season.

– Luke 2:21-40 –



FIVE DAY DEVOTIONAL



Day 1: Righteous Obedience

Reading: Leviticus 12:1-8; Luke 2:21-24

- ✚ **Devotional:** Mary and Joseph's obedience to Torah reveals a profound truth: righteous parenting begins with righteous living. Despite their economic poverty, they faithfully followed God's commands, circumcising Jesus on the eighth day and presenting Him at the temple. Their obedience wasn't contingent on convenience or comfort, but on conviction.
- ✚ **Consider** how you model obedience to God's Word before those watching your life. Are you teaching others—especially children—that following God matters regardless of circumstances? Righteous parents don't need wealth or status; they need faithfulness. Your obedience to Scripture, even in small matters, shapes the spiritual atmosphere of your home and influence.
- ✚ **Reflection:** What area of obedience is God calling you to model more faithfully today?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



Day 2: Watching and Waiting

Reading: Proverbs 30:7-9; Luke 2:25-27

- ✚ **Devotional:** Simeon spent decades watching and waiting for God's promise to be fulfilled. The Holy Spirit sustained him through years of anticipation, guiding him to the exact moment when infant Jesus entered the temple. His patience teaches us that God's timing is always perfect, even when it tests our endurance.
- ✚ Are you growing weary in your waiting? Perhaps you've been praying for breakthrough, healing, or restoration. Simeon reminds us that if we stay ready, we never have to get ready. The Holy Spirit will pilot you to your divine appointment when the moment arrives. Don't give up now. God doesn't come when you want Him, but He's always right on time.
- ✚ **Reflection:** What promise from God are you still watching and waiting to see fulfilled?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



Day 3: Light for All Peoples

Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5; Luke 2:28-32

- ✚ **Devotional:** Simeon's prophecy declares Jesus as "a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to Israel." This dual purpose reveals God's inclusive heart—salvation prepared for all peoples, not just one nation. Jesus came to illuminate those sitting in darkness and to fulfill Israel's ancient hope.
- ✚ The gospel breaks down every barrier of ethnicity, economics, and status. If you were once in darkness, Jesus is your light. If you're part of God's covenant people, Jesus is your glory. This salvation wasn't prepared in secret but displayed before the whole world at Calvary. God's rescue plan includes you, regardless of your background.
- ✚ **Reflection:** How can you reflect Christ's light to someone sitting in darkness today?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



Day 4: The Sword of Division

Reading: Matthew 10:34-39; Luke 2:33-35

- ✚ **Devotional:** Simeon's prophecy took a dark turn: "A sword will pierce your own soul." This was the first bad news in Luke's gospel. Jesus was destined not merely to unite, but to divide—causing some to rise and others to fall. Mary would experience the ultimate maternal trauma, watching her son rejected and crucified.
- ✚ **Jesus still divides.** He demands a response that reveals what's truly in our hearts. Some receive Him and rise to eternal life; others reject Him and utterly fall. This division isn't accidental—it's His appointed purpose. Following Christ may cost you relationships, comfort, or reputation. But those who receive Him gain the power to become children of God.
- ✚ **Reflection:** What has following Jesus cost you, and what have you gained?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



Day 5: Godliness with Contentment

Reading: Philippians 4:10-13; Luke 2:36-40

- ✚ **Devotional:** Jesus was born into poverty. His family couldn't afford the prescribed lamb sacrifice, offering instead the poor person's alternative. Yet in this economic deprivation, God's grace rested upon Him. Hannah, the prophetess, devoted her widowhood to serving God in the temple—content in her circumstances while watching for redemption.
- ✚ **Poverty** is neither virtue nor vice; it's a circumstance in our fallen world. What matters is contentment—finding satisfaction in what you have and believing you have enough. Whether in poverty or prosperity, famine or feasting, godliness with contentment brings great gain. Jesus became poor so that by His poverty we might become spiritually rich.
- ✚ **Reflection:** In what areas do you need to cultivate greater contentment before God today?

– Luke 2:21-40 –



Closing Prayer

Closing Prayer: Father in heaven, we pray for parents in our Life Group to model faithful obedience. Please grant us endurance in watching and waiting for Your promises. Guide us in the way of godly contentment regardless of economic circumstances. Give us wisdom to recognize Your appointed moments. Ease any anxiety Your people might feel around the inherent divisiveness of Jesus' life and ministry. May we embrace it as opposed to being embarrassed by it. In Jesus' matchless name, Amen.

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