Steve Withington

Remember: you do not have to do the entire study (you may not have time) – you can choose what questions you want to discuss.

Read Luke 2:22-38

- 1. What do you think of Joseph and Mary presenting Jesus in the Temple? Why is this important?
- 2. Why had Simeon been waiting so long?
- 3. What helps us get ready and stay ready? What do Simeon and Anna do in their waiting for God and how can I apply their example to my own life?
- 4. Why did Simeon pray the way he did? How might his waiting have influenced what he said?
- 5. How is Simeon's prayer still relevant today? Why is it important for us to remember that Jesus came for Jew and Gentile?
- 6. How can I tell the difference between being led by the Holy Spirit and being led by my own desires for answered prayer?
- 7. When you think back over the entire nativity story, who are the different people who have been involved? Who are the people that have met Jesus throughout the story?
- 8. What does this tell us about who God desires to include?
- 9. Who are the people in your life that God has called you to? Who are the people beyond your usual comfort zone that he is calling you to?
- 10. How are you living a life of preparation for the movement of God? How are you preparing to invite new people into your life?

Prayer points:

- Spend time praying for the situation in Israel/Palestine:
 - o For peace to prevail, and soon.
 - o For the political and military leaders of the area.
 - o For the civilians caught in the middle of the conflict.
 - o For those who have lost family members and loved ones.
 - o For long term solutions to be adopted and agreed to.
 - o For Jesus to be the centre of bringing peace and stability to the land of his birth.
- Prayer for those who are struggling this Christmas, whether financially, emotionally, physically or otherwise.