

PART 4: Praise

DATE: 12-20-2020

**START**

Simeon was described as righteous and devout. Righteousness works in two ways. First, we are righteous not because of what we do, but because God has us. Second, because God has us it moves us to pursue a righteous life. In other words, we are made righteous because of what God has done, and because of what God has done we continue to pursue being righteous.

- How have you tried to create your own righteousness through what you have done?
- How does God make us righteous?
- How do you continue to pursue God's righteousness?

**READ**

[Luke 2:30-31](#) (NIV)

"For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations"

**THINK**

Praise is our response to being in Jesus' presence. Praising Jesus can come easy when everything is going well, but praising Jesus can be difficult when everything around us is difficult. Regardless of our external circumstances, we can be confident that when we are in the presence of Jesus we can still praise Him.

- When do you find it easy to praise Jesus?
- When do you find it difficult to praise Jesus?
- How have you been able to work through the difficulty of praising Jesus?

After Simeon praises God while holding the infant Jesus, the prophet Anna approaches with thankfulness. She knows that thankfulness isn't about what you have, but about who has you. Her praise and thankfulness begins with who has her.

- Do you find yourself being more thankful for what you have or who has provided for what you have?
- How do you express your thankfulness to Jesus for loving you?
- How are praise and thankfulness connected to Jesus?

**PRAY**

God, I am thankful that you sent your son to save me. I praise you not because of what you have given me, but because of who you are. You have me in your arms and love me unconditionally. Thank you for never giving up on me.

**ACT**

This week as you celebrate the birth of Jesus, take some time to praise God for sending His son.

[Discover Hope](#) | [Next Step](#)



ONE CHURCH. RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE.