



JESUS MAKES EVERYTHING NEW // LUKE 2:21-40

1. 2017 has come to an end. What were the highs and (if you're comfortable sharing) the lows? What are you most looking forward to in 2018?
2. Luke 2:21-40 is often ignored text because it comes after the more popular "Christmas passages." That's unfortunate. It's really an instructive and important passage. What were your initial take-aways from today's message/passage?
3. We are introduced to three sets of characters and three different testimonies about Jesus. With which set of characters do you most naturally relate and why? (1) Mary and Joseph, (2) Simeon or (3) Anna. – what stands out to you most about each character?
4. Since none of us are 1st Century Jews, the language & customs around temple worship are lost on us. From the message, what stood out to you most about these customs and laws? How does Jesus redefine and/or abolish these ceremonial laws and customs through his sinless life and substitutionary death on the cross?
5. Simeon had a gift in that God promised him he'd see the Messiah before he died. That didn't change the fact that he likely had to wait most of his life before it happened. Is there a promise from God that you're waiting on right now? What are the most common difficulties associated with waiting on the Lord? How do you personally handle them?
6. All four of the characters in our text had godly character. How does your reputation and lifestyle help or hurt your testimony? What does your life say about your testimony?
7. One of the things we see Anna do in this passage is tell "everyone" waiting for the Messiah to look to Jesus. Some might call that evangelism. Who, in your life, needs to hear about the comfort and salvation that is in Jesus? Will you commit to telling them?
8. A fresh start begins with an honest assessment of current reality. What is YOUR testimony? What things need to change? Ask the group to pray with you for those things.