

June 18
9:00am & 11:00am
Three and Four Year Olds
JESUS WAS DEDICATED
Matthew 1; Luke 2

CHRIST CONNECTION:

God had promised His people that a Savior was coming. When Simeon and Anna saw Jesus, they knew He was the Savior. Jesus came to save people from sin. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins; and like Simeon and Anna, we get to tell others the good news.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

KEY PASSAGE:

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29

Key Passage Phrase: *Jesus takes away the sin of the world. John 1:29*

LEARN

1. GATHER ON THE RUG FOR THE LESSON

Introduce the Bible Story

SAY *In today's Bible story, we will learn about Simeon and Anna, two people who wanted to see Baby Jesus. God told Simeon that he would see Jesus, the Messiah, before he died. Simeon waited patiently many years for the day to arrive. Let's listen to hear more.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

9AM Volunteers with 3s in room 125: You will need to combine with room 124 for bible story time.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

If you have issues with the video, there is a teaching outline at the end of this guide.

3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Ask the following review questions.

1. What did you like about the Bible story? (*Preschoolers' answers will vary.*)
2. Where did Mary and Joseph take Jesus? (*They took Him to the temple.*)
3. Why did Simeon want to see Baby Jesus? (Simeon knew that God had promised to send someone special to save people from sin. God had told Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah who would rescue people from their sins. Simeon knew that Jesus was the special One God promised to send to save people from sin.)
4. Why do you love Jesus? (Preschoolers' answers will vary.)
5. What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

SAY *Mary and Joseph loved God and wanted to obey Him. When Jesus was a baby, they took Him to the temple and brought a gift of two birds to give to God. The temple was a place where people went to pray and worship God. A man named Simeon loved God. He knew that God had promised to send someone special to save people from sin. God had told Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah who would rescue people from their sins. That day, God told Simeon to go to the temple. Simeon saw Jesus there, and he held Baby Jesus in his arms and praised God. Simeon told Mary that being Jesus' mother would be very good, but it would be very hard. Some people would love Jesus, but other people would not like Him. Anna, a woman who was very old, was also at the temple. When she saw Jesus, she praised God and told other people the good news: Jesus the Savior is here! We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others about Jesus.*

4. LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION

SAY *Simeon and Anna praised and thanked God when they saw Jesus. God kept His promise by sending the special One who would save people from sin. They knew Jesus was the Savior God sent. This reminds me of our big picture question and answer: **What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.***

5. PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Place the key passage marker at John 1:29. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage.

Write *sin* on a dry erase board. Teach children how to read the word. Read aloud the verse, pause before the word “sin,” and lead children to say it. Then, continue saying the rest of the verse. Repeat the key passage a few times.

SAY *Simeon saw Jesus at the temple and held Him. Simeon knew that Jesus was special. Simeon prayed, ‘God, You kept Your promise, and I have seen the One who will save people from sin.’ Sin is words, thoughts, or actions that disobey God. All of us sin. You sin by disobeying your parents or fighting with your brother or sister. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus came to earth to take away the sin of the world.*

5. PRAY

SAY *God had promised His people that a Savior was coming. When Simeon and Anna saw Jesus, they knew He was the Savior. Jesus came to save people from sin. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins; and like Simeon and Anna, we get to tell others the good news.*

SAY *God, we love You and Your Son, Jesus! Thank You for keeping Your promise to send Your Son, Jesus, to save people from sin. Help us to tell others about Jesus. Amen.*

ACTIVITIES

MAKE A PLAY DOUGH FACE

Give each child a **paper plate, a ball of play dough, and washable markers**. Guide preschoolers to use markers to color hair and use play dough to make eyes, a nose, and a mouth on the plate to resemble Mary. The expression on the plate can be happy or sad.

SAY *Simeon saw Jesus at the temple and he picked Jesus up in his arms. He prayed, ‘God, You kept Your promise, and I have seen the One who will save people from sin.’ Mary and Joseph heard Simeon say those important words. Jesus was going to save people from sin! Simeon talked to Mary and Joseph. He said being Jesus’ mother would be very good, but it would be very hard. Simeon told them that some people would love Jesus, but other people would not like Him at all. Some things would happen that would make Mary very sad. Jesus was born to be the Savior of the world. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others about Jesus.*

FLY BIRDS

Prior to the session, fold **paper airplanes**. Lead preschoolers to draw eyes and a beak on the pointed end to resemble doves. Suggest preschoolers take turns tossing the “doves” to make them fly.

SAY *When Jesus was a baby, Mary and Joseph took Him to the temple and brought a gift of two birds to give to God. A man named Simeon loved God. He knew that God had promised to send someone special to save people from sin. God had told Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah who would rescue people from their sins. That day, God told Simeon to go to the temple. Simeon saw Jesus there. Simeon held Baby Jesus in his arms and praised God. He prayed, ‘God, You kept Your promise, and I have seen the One who will save people from sin.’ We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others about Jesus.*

ACTIVITY PAGE (please send this home with parents)

Lead preschoolers to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY *We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others about Jesus.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE

Open your Bible to Romans 8 Use the bold version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.

JESUS WAS DEDICATED

STORYTELLING TIPS

Carry a baby doll: Hold a baby doll to represent Baby Jesus as you tell the story.

Use a puppet prop: Make a two-sided paper plate puppet featuring a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other side. Show the happy face when mentioning that Simeon was happy when he saw Baby Jesus and when Simeon told Mary that being Jesus' mother would be very good. Flip to the sad face when Simeon said that being Jesus' mother would be hard. Show the happy face again when talking about Anna praising God when she saw Baby Jesus.

One day, **when Jesus was still a baby, Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple. The temple was the place where people went to pray and worship God.** Many years before, God had given special rules to all the people of Israel. One rule was, "When a woman's first son is born, his parents must present him to God." Another rule was that the child's parents should give an offering to God. Mary and Joseph obeyed God and brought two birds as an offering.

A man named Simeon lived in Jerusalem, and he loved God. He knew that God had promised to send someone special to save people from sin. God had told Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Messiah who would rescue people from their sins. Simeon trusted God.

That day, God told Simeon to go to the temple. Simeon saw Jesus there, and he picked Jesus up in his arms. Simeon was so happy! Simeon knew that Jesus was special. Simeon praised God. **He prayed, "God, You kept Your promise, and I have seen the One who will save people from sin."**

Mary and Joseph heard Simeon say those important words. Jesus was going to save people from sin! Simeon talked to Mary and Joseph. He said being Jesus' mother would be very good, but it would be very hard. Some people would love Jesus, but other people would not like Him at all. Some things would happen that would make Mary very sad.

Another woman, Anna, was in the temple. Anna was very old. She stayed at the temple all the time and worshiped God.

Anna walked toward Simeon, Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. **When Anna saw Jesus, she thanked God. People had been waiting a long time for God to send the special One who would save people from sin. Anna told other people the good news: Jesus the Savior is here!**

Mary and Joseph did everything they were supposed to do at the temple. Then they went back home. **Jesus grew up, and He was strong and healthy and wise. God was happy with Jesus.**

Christ Connection: God had promised His people that a Savior was coming. When Simeon and Anna saw Jesus, they knew He was the Savior. Jesus came to save people from sin. We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins; and like Simeon and Anna, we get to tell others the good news.

DISMISS PRESCHOOLERS

- Release preschoolers to parents by matching up the number on the child's sticker with the guardian receipt.
- Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.
- Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.

June 11
9:00am & 11:00am
Two Year Olds
JESUS WAS DEDICATED
Matthew 1; Luke 2

CHRIST CONNECTION: We can tell others the good news about Jesus.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What did Jesus do to save us? Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead..

KEY PASSAGE PHRASE: *Jesus takes away the sin of the world.* John 1:29

LEARN

(CIRCLE TIME ON THE RUG)

1. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Ask preschoolers if any of them have a new baby at home or if they've seen new babies around church. Talk about babies, asking if they know what babies like to do or how to care for a baby.

SAY *Today we will hear a Bible story about a time that Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple when He was a baby.*

2. PLAY THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO ON THE TV.

How? Turn on the TV and Apple TV, Open the Plex App, and play the video with today's date (If needed, the Plex Pin is 1234)

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3. LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the key passage phrase marker at John 1:29. Ask a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Say the key passage phrase. Encourage the children to pretend they are holding a baby and repeat the key passage phrase.

SAY *We pretended we held a baby in our arms as we said the key passage phrase. Our phrase reminds us that Jesus takes away the sin of the world. Simeon saw Baby Jesus at the temple and held Jesus up in his arms. Simeon was so happy. He knew that Jesus is the One would save people from sin.*

ACTIVITIES

JUMP INTO A BOX

Use **masking tape** to make a large square box on the floor. (For a large group of preschoolers, make several boxes in different places in the room.) Name people at your church, including the preschoolers and teachers in your room. Instruct children to jump into the box if they know the person you name and jump out of the box if they do not know the person.

SAY *You jumped inside our box shape if you knew the person named. It reminds me of a man named Simeon in our Bible story who knew Jesus is special. God told Simeon to go to the temple. Simeon saw Baby Jesus there and held Jesus up in his arms. Simeon was so happy! Simeon praised God. When a woman named Anna saw Jesus at the temple, she praised God and told others about Jesus. Simeon and Anna loved God. People at our church love God, too. They tell others about Jesus. We can tell others about Jesus, too!*

COLOR THE ACTIVITY PAGE *(please send this home with parents)*

Lead preschoolers to complete the **activity page**. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

SAY *We can trust Jesus to save us from our sins, and we can tell others about Jesus.*

OPTIONAL TEACHING OUTLINE:

BIBLE STORY FOR TODDLERS:

After Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph obeyed God's words and brought Him to the temple to give a gift to God. They brought two birds to give to God. A man named Simeon had been waiting to see the special King whom God had promised to send. God told Simeon that he would see God's special King during his lifetime. When Mary and Joseph brought Baby Jesus to the temple, Simeon held Baby Jesus and praised God. Then a woman named Anna praised God and told people in the temple the good news: Jesus, the Savior, is here! After that, Mary and Joseph took Baby Jesus home. Jesus grew up, and God was with Him.

Check diapers and release toddlers to parents according to security procedures. Give parents today's activity page to reinforce today's Bible story and Christ connection throughout the week.