

# Simeon Blesses Jesus

## LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON



**Theme:** We keep our promises.

**Scripture:** Luke 2:22-40

**Memory Verse:** "It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Luke 2:26

**Get Ready:** Click [here](#) to get your complete supply list for this lesson.

## The Children's Sermon:

### You'll Need:

- A calendar for the new year
- Sticky notes - one per child
- Pens or pencils - one per child

### Do This:

**SAY:** It is the beginning of a New Year. (Show the calendar.) A brand new calendar for a fresh start on life. Most people start the new year by making some New Year Resolutions. Making a resolution is like making a promise to ourselves that we are going to do certain things. Usually it is a promise to do better next year than we did last year. Here's a list of resolutions that might be good for children to make.

- I will watch less TV and get more exercise.
- I will wear my seat belt every time I get in a car.
- I will be nice to other kids---even my brothers and sisters!

- **I will put away my toys when I am through playing with them.**

**Can you think of some more resolutions you could make?** (Allow kids to give ideas.)

**Some people don't take New Year's resolutions very seriously. After all, they're just promises to yourself. We might think that if we don't follow through, it's no big deal. But it is a big deal! A promise is a promise and it's important to keep your promises--even if it's just a promise to yourself.**

**Think of something important enough to make a promise about this year. Write a word or quick symbol on a sticky note to say what that promise is.**

Distribute the sticky notes and pens or pencils. Have kids write or draw, and then place their sticky notes on the calendar either on the date they want to have it done or the last day of the year.

**The Bible tells about a very important promise God made to His people. Thankfully, God is always faithful in keeping His promises. We learn in the Bible about a man named Simeon. Simeon was a very old man who had waited his whole life to see God's promise come to himself and to God's people. God had promised to send a Messiah or savior to the world, and God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the promised Messiah.**

**A few days after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph took Him to the temple to dedicate Him to God. Simeon was in the temple as usual. As soon as Simeon saw baby Jesus, he knew God had kept His promise. Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God, saying, "Lord, now let your servant die in peace. As you have promised, I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people."**

**Anna was a prophet who was also in the Temple. She was always at the Temple worshiping and praying. When she heard what Simeon was saying, she praised God and told everyone that Jesus was the Savior that God had promised.**

**Today, as we begin a new year, let's remember that just as God is faithful in keeping His promises, we can be faithful in keeping our promises.** (Allow time for kids to hold up the promises they made to God.)

**PRAY:** Dear God, just as You're faithful to keep Your promises, help us be faithful in keeping our promises. In Jesus' name, amen.

### **Virtual Lesson Tip**

*Do this with the entire family.*

## **Bible Memory Verse**

**"It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Luke 2:26**

### **You'll Need:**

- **A Bible**
- **Cheap sunglasses - one pair for each child**
- **Permanent markers**

**Get Ready:** Write each word or phrase from today's Bible memory verse on the lenses of the sunglasses so the entire verse is covered. Then hide the sunglasses around the room or even around the church.

## Do This:

- Invite a child to look up Luke 2:26 and read it aloud.
- Explain that kids are to find all the sunglasses and put on a pair.
- Once they've all found the sunglasses and put on a pair, they are to get in order for today's Bible memory verse.
- Once in order, have kids take turns saying the verse by saying aloud the words or phrases on their glasses.

## Virtual Lesson Tip

*Do this with the entire family.*

# Bible Interactive Experience

## You'll Need:

- **Bibles - one per child**
- **["Simeon Blesses Jesus"](#) handouts - one per child**
- **Pens or pencils - one per child**

## Do This:

- Give each child a "Simeon Blesses Jesus" handout and a pen or pencil.
- Explain that kids are to match the Bible verses to the promises.
- After they've had time to complete the handout, go over the answers.

## ASK:

- **What promise meant the most to you and why?**
- **Is it easy or hard for you to believe that God will keep His promises? Why or why not?**

**SAY:** God's Holy Spirit showed Simeon that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. That's a big promise and Simeon was getting old. God led him to the temple and he got to see Jesus. Simeon believed God's promise to him. You can believe God's promises, too!

## "Jesus Is God's Promise to Us" Video Lesson

### You'll Need:

- ["Jesus Is God's Promise to Us"](#) video lesson
- Something to play the video

### Do This:

Show them the video.

### ASK:

- What surprised you in this video?
- What questions do you have?
- Why do you think Jesus is worth waiting for?

## Baby Jesus Snacks

### You'll Need:

- Nutter Butter Cookies

- **Blue Icing**
- **Paper plates - one per child**
- **Black icing gel**

### **Do This:**

- Give each child a paper plate and a Nutter Butter cookie.
- Explain to kids that they're going to make a baby Jesus with a blanket on Him.
- Invite kids to dip their Nutter Butters in blue icing to form the blanket covering for baby Jesus about three-quarters of the way up the cookie.
- Using the black gel icing, invite kids to make a face on the baby Jesus cookie.
- Allow kids to have more than one cookie for their snack.

**SAY:** Can you imagine what Simeon must have felt when He finally saw Jesus with His own eyes? Simeon said:

**"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.**

**For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel."**

### **ASK:**

- **Tell about a time someone made a promise to you and kept it.**
- **Tell about a promise that you've made and kept.**

**Promise Puppets**

## **You'll Need:**

- **Brown lunch sacks - one per child**
- **Markers**
- **Glue**
- **Yarn**
- **Fabric scraps**

## **Do This:**

- Give each child a brown paper bag, markers, fabric, and yarn to decorate their puppets to look like Simeon.
- Encourage the children to write "For my eyes have seen your salvation" on the front of their puppets.
- Once they've completed their puppets, allow kids to tell each other the Bible lesson with their Simeon puppet.

## **ASK:**

- **What do you think it was like for Simeon to wait for God's promise?**
- **Explain whether waiting is hard for you.**
- **What helps you to wait patiently?**

**SAY:** Waiting can be very hard. We sometimes find ourselves waiting on God. Maybe we've prayed about something and we're waiting for God to answer. Remember, God keeps His promises. That doesn't mean everything will look perfect or like we want, but we can trust God to do what's best for us.

# Promise Star Ornament

## You'll Need:

- **Craft sticks - 5 per child**
- **Yarn**
- **Glue**
- **Markers or crayons**

## Do This:

To make the star crafts, have kids follow these steps:

- Give children 5 craft sticks and have them lightly color one side of each stick.
- Have children write a promise on each end of all the craft sticks for promises that they would like to keep, leaving the centers of the sticks empty because they will later overlap in the center and be glued together.
- Glue the middle of the sticks together on top of each other to form a star.
- Loop some yarn around the center of each star so kids can hang them on their Christmas trees.

## ASK:

- **What are the promises you wrote?**
- **What is a promise you especially need to remember about God right now?**

**SAY:** As you hang this star on your tree, think about the promises you would like to keep, and remember that God is the perfect promise keeper. God kept His word to Simeon, and He will keep His promises to us.



# Snowflake Prayers

## You'll Need:

- **White paper**
- **Scissors**
- **Markers**

## Do This:

- Give each child a square or round white piece of paper.
- Have kids fold the paper as many times as possible.
- Have kids cut little notches out on all the folded edges.
- Have kids unfold their new snowflakes.
- Encourage kids to write a message to God, such as "I believe Your promises" or "I will wait for Your promises."
- Invite kids to say a silent prayer thanking God for keeping His promises before they hang the Snowflake Prayers on your classroom door.

## ASK:

- **What's a promise you want to make to God today?**

**PRAY:** Dear God, You keep your promises. Help us remember that we can count on You to keep Your Word. Help us to keep our promises to You. We thank you for the gift of Jesus and that He died in our place for our sins. In Jesus' name, amen.

# Time to Praise God

## You'll Need:

- Song: "God Is So Good"  
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)  
  
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track
- Song: "My God Is So Great"  
[Words and Music](#) (pdf)  
  
[MP3](#) Accompaniment Track

## Do This:

**SAY:** There is no one greater than our God. Let's worship Him through song now.

Lead children in singing "God Is So Good" and "My God Is So Great."

## If You Have Extra Time...

Use these activity sheets to fill in any time and keep kids learning.

- [Simeon Recognizes Jesus Jumble](#)
- [Simeon Recognizes Jesus Word Search](#)
- [Simeon Recognizes Jesus Crossword](#)

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- [Cheap sunglasses](#) - one pair for each child
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- Bibles - one per child
- "Simeon Blesses Jesus" handouts - one per child
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- "Jesus Is God's Promise to Us" video lesson
- Something to play the video
- [Nutter Butter Cookies](#)
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- [Paper plates](#) - one per child
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## AT HOME LESSON

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