

Simeon Blesses Jesus

PRESCHOOL LESSON



Theme: We keep our promises.

Scripture: Luke 2:22-40

Memory Verse: "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.) **This is a calendar--it helps us remember what day it is, like Sunday, Monday...** (Invite kids to tell the rest of the days in a week.) **And it tells us what month it is, like December, when we celebrate Christmas. January is the first month in the year. When people celebrate a new year, they like to make new year resolutions. These are like promises to ourselves. Adults might promise to exercise more or read the Bible more. Here are some promises or resolutions kids might make:**

- 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.)

Promises are important-even if it is just a promise to yourself.

Think of something important enough to make a promise about this year.

Distribute the sticky notes and pens or pencils. Invite kids to share promises they can make, and then write a smiley face on the sticky note and stick it to the calendar to show they want to make that promise this year.

The Bible tells about a very important promise God made to His people. God always keeps His promises. There's a story in the Bible about a man named Simeon. Simeon had waited his whole life to see God's promise. God had promised to send a Messiah, or rescuer to the world and He told Simeon the Messiah would come before he died.

After Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph took Him to the temple to dedicate Him to God. Simeon was there, and when he saw baby Jesus, he knew God had kept His promise. Simeon praised God because he knew Jesus was the Messiah. Another lady named Anna, had also been waiting for the Messiah, and she praised God, too!

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.

PRAY: Dear God, just as You keep Your promises, help us keep our promises. In Jesus' name, amen.

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

Bible Memory Verse

"He would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Luke 2:26

You'll Need:

- **A Bible**
- **A baby doll**

Get Ready: Place the doll somewhere it is visible, but not obvious.

Do This:

- Read aloud Luke 2:26.
- Remind kids that God told Simeon He would send Jesus, the Messiah, before Simeon died.
- Explain that Simeon was waiting and looking for Jesus to show up for years and years.
- Invite kids to look for Jesus around the room, kind of like how Simeon was looking for Jesus and saw Him in the temple.
- Lead kids to repeat the verse with you after they spot the baby doll and then celebrate like Simeon did.
- Repeat, hiding the doll again, as time allows.

Ask:

- **What do you think it was like to wait for Jesus to come?**
- **Why do you think Simeon kept believing God while he waited?**

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- Dress-up clothes
- Baby doll

Do This:

- Invite kids to take on the roles of Mary, Joseph, Anna, and Simeon by putting on simple dress-up clothes and acting out what happened in the Bible lesson.
- Read aloud Luke 2:22-40, stopping for kids to act out.
- Have the children watching celebrate with cheers and claps with Anna and Simeon.
- Switch roles and repeat until everyone has had a role.

ASK:

- What do you like about celebrations?
- Why do you think Anna and Simeon celebrated Jesus?

SAY: God showed Simeon that he would not die before he had seen Jesus. 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!

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

“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?

Celebration Cookies

You’ll Need:

- Cookies - 1 per child
- Icing
- Paper plates -1 per child
- Spoons - 1 per child
- Large sprinkles

Do This:

- Give each child a paper plate and a cookie.

- Remind kids how Simeon and Anna praised God and celebrated when they found out Jesus was born.
- Have kids make celebration cookies by adding icing and sprinkles.
- Have kids try to tell one great thing about God or Jesus for every sprinkle on their cookies.

Red Light, Green Light

You'll Need:

- **Red paper**
- **Green paper**

Do This:

- Have kids line up at one end of the room with you at the other end of the room.
- Play Red Light, Green Light, using the papers to help preschoolers know when to go. (Remind kids of the colors before you play.)
- When you hold up a red paper, kids must stop moving. When you hold up a green paper, kids can move toward you.
- The goal is for kids to be the first one across the room to reach you.
- During the game, pause for up to 30 seconds after you've said "red light" to create a clear waiting period.
- Invite kids to take turns leading.

ASK:

- **Is waiting easy or hard for you? Explain.**

- **What do you think helped Simeon and Anna wait for God's promises to be true?**

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, we can wait for God because God keeps His promises.

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

Praise Puppets

You'll Need:

- **Large craft sticks - 2 per child**
- **Markers**
- **Glue**
- **Yarn**
- **Scissors**
- **Fabric scraps**

Do This:

- Give each child two large craft sticks, markers, fabric, and yarn.
- Show them how to use the markers to make two eyes and a smiling mouth on the end of each craft stick.

- Show them how to cut small pieces of yarn to make hair for the Simeon and Anna puppets.
- Have kids glue the hair above the faces they drew.
- Show them how to glue the fabric scraps to the craft sticks for clothes.
- Once they've completed their puppets, allow kids to tell each other the story of Simeon using their puppets, making their puppets celebrate and praise God for Jesus.

SAY: Simeon and Anna celebrated by praising God.

ASK:

- What do you do to celebrate Jesus?

SAY: Jesus is the most amazing gift Simeon and Anna ever received, and He's the greatest gift we'll ever receive, too! That's why they celebrated by praising God for sending Jesus. We can praise God, too, in song, through prayer, and by telling others about Jesus.

Simeon and Anna Prayers

Do This:

- Have boys be "Simeon" and girls be "Anna."
- Explain that the Simeons will say, "Praise God!" and the Annas will respond "Jesus is Messiah!"
- Invite kids to repeat these praises back and forth.

ASK:

- What are some other praise or worship words you know?

PRAY: Dear God, You keep Your promises, and we want to praise and thank You for that! Help us to keep our promises to You. In Jesus' name, amen.

Virtual Lesson Tip

Do this with the entire family.

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 Coloring Page](#)

Complete Supply List:

- A calendar for the new year
- [Sticky notes](#) - one per child
- Pens or pencils - one per child
- A Bible
- A baby doll
- Dress-up clothes
- "Jesus Is God's Promise to Us" video lesson
- Something to play the video
- [Cookies](#) - 1 per child
- [Icing](#)
- [Paper plates](#) -1 per child
- [Spoons](#) - 1 per child
- [Large sprinkles](#)
- [Red and Green paper](#)
- [Large craft sticks](#) - 2 per child
- [Markers](#)
- [Glue](#)
- [Yarn](#)
- Scissors
- Fabric scraps

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Simeon Blesses Jesus

AT HOME LESSON

Theme: We keep our promises.

Scripture: Luke 2:22-40

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.

"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.**

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 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.

Complete Supply List:

- A calendar for the new year
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- "Jesus Is God's Promise to Us" video lesson
- Something to play the video
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