GENESIS TO REVELATION | BIBLE ACCOUNT

Simeon and Anna Meet Jesus

Luke 2:22-38



YOUR BIBLE READING

Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as God's promised gift.

Inside: two extended reading pages, a thoughtful reflection, creative activities and a grown-up guide.

AGES 6-10 WITH AN ADULT • 6 COLORFUL A4 PAGES • ENGLISH ONLY

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 1 OF 2

A Promise Recognized in a Baby

Luke 2:22-38



Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to present him to the Lord according to the law of Moses. They also brought the offering prescribed for this occasion: a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. The account describes a family following the worship and customs given to Israel. Their child was small, and they were carrying out the duties that belonged to this stage of his life.

In Jerusalem lived a man named Simeon. He was righteous and devoted to God, waiting for the comfort God had promised Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him. The Spirit had shown him that he would not die before seeing the Lord's Messiah. This was a particular promise to Simeon. His waiting had a focus: he longed to see God's saving work arrive for the people, and he trusted the word he had received.

Led by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple when Jesus' parents brought him there. He took the baby in his arms and blessed God. The meeting joins a very young child with a man who had been waiting for God's promise. Simeon recognized something that could not be measured by the baby's size or by the importance of the family's offering. Here was the salvation he had been promised he would see.

Simeon spoke of being able to depart in peace, because his eyes had seen God's salvation. This salvation had been prepared in the sight of all peoples. The child would bring light to the nations and glory to Israel. His thanksgiving reached beyond one family and one country. Holding the baby, Simeon praised God for a gift whose meaning would extend to people far beyond those gathered around him in the temple.

Remember: God's saving light reaches people from every nation.

EXTENDED ENGLISH READING • PAGE 2 OF 2

Anna's Thanksgiving and Simeon's Warning

Luke 2:22-38



Joseph and Mary marveled at what Simeon said about Jesus. The words gave voice to the greatness of the child they were raising. Simeon blessed them, then spoke directly to Mary about a harder part of the future. Jesus would bring the falling and rising of many in Israel and would be opposed. His coming would reveal what was in people's hearts. The good news would not mean that everyone welcomed him without resistance.

Simeon also told Mary that sorrow would pierce her own soul. This was a picture of deep personal grief, not a command for anyone to hurt her. The passage places the warning beside praise rather than hiding it. Joy and future sorrow belong within the same scene. The child was God's saving gift, yet Mary's relationship with him would include pain as well as wonder. She was not promised an easy path without loss.

At that same hour, Anna came near. She was an elderly prophetess from the tribe of Asher, the daughter of Phanuel. After a short married life, she had lived as a widow for many years. Her days were shaped by worship, prayer, and fasting at the temple. Luke gives her a name, a family connection, and a faithful life of her own. She is not simply an unnamed person in the background of Simeon's meeting.

Anna gave thanks to God and spoke about Jesus to those who were waiting for Jerusalem's redemption. Simeon had praised while holding him; Anna now shared the news with other hopeful people. The scene ends with recognition and thanksgiving spreading among those who longed for God's rescue. A family's visit according to the law became an occasion when two faithful people identified the promise before them in the life of this little child.

Pause and think: What might you learn by listening to someone from a different generation in your community?

THINK, NOTICE & GROW

Making Room for Different Generations



A baby, parents, and people who had waited and worshiped for many years meet in this account. Different generations have a place in the story. Children can receive care and also bring joy to older people. Older people can share memory, wisdom, and hope. We do not need to decide that only the youngest or the most powerful person is worth hearing when a community gathers.

Simeon's words include both light and sorrow. Hope does not require pretending that pain will never come. If you feel sad during a time others call happy, you can speak with a trusted adult. A grateful heart can still need comfort. The warning to Mary belongs to Jesus' particular story, but its presence reminds readers that the Bible makes room for complicated feelings rather than only one emotion at a time.

Anna's response was to give thanks and tell others. Think of someone older whose faithfulness or kindness you have noticed. You could listen to a memory, ask a thoughtful question, or offer a simple thank-you. These are ways to honor people today, not added events at the temple. Quiet years of care can carry a valuable witness.

A SMALL STEP FOR TODAY

Simeon and Anna recognized God's promised salvation in Jesus and welcomed him with truthful hope and thanksgiving.

What might you learn by listening to someone from a different generation in your community?

Read, Remember & Create

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Think about the reading

1. What had God promised Simeon?

2. What did Anna do when she saw Jesus?

2 Put the ideas in order

Write 1, 2 and 3 for the order these ideas appear in the reading.

- ☐ Anna gives thanks and tells others about Jesus.
- ☐ Simeon holds Jesus and praises God.
- ☐ Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the temple.

3 Draw a meaningful picture

Draw Simeon holding Jesus while Anna gives thanks nearby.

Tell someone how your picture connects to the reading.

Read & Grow Together

Read and learn with context

This English edition is designed for ages 6-10 with an adult. Read both extended readings together, or enjoy one each day. Pause at unfamiliar words, invite questions and use the reflection page to connect the story with everyday life. These are retellings and lessons with explanations; read the listed Bible passage for context. Poetry, parables, letters and symbolic visions are identified by type.

Remember this

God's saving light reaches people from every nation.
Original memory thought, not a direct Bible quotation. Related passage: Luke 2:30-32

A thoughtful conversation

Simeon honors Israel and speaks of light for other nations. Anna is a prophet with her own faithful witness. The text's description of her age can be read in different ways, so no exact age is assigned.

Activity answers

1. He would see the Messiah before he died.
2. She thanked God and told others about him.
Sequence boxes, top to bottom: 3, 2, 1. Personal responses and drawings will vary.

Optional prayer

God, thank you for faithful people who help us recognize your love. Amen.

Print and share

Each pack has 6 pages. Print on A4 at Actual Size (100%). The worksheet is page 5. You may print just that page, or use the separate 150-page activity book. The collection contains 150 packs in Bible book order, 15 volumes and one ZIP. Catalog pack IDs stay the same when new readings are added.

Sources and sharing

English retellings, lessons, reflections and activities by DigiPick (2026), based on Luke 2:22-38. Source checked with the public-domain World English Bible. Illustration © Sweet Publishing; 42_Lk_02_09_RG.jpg. CC BY-SA 3.0. Source: unfoldingWord. Resized proportionally, without cropping.
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