



encounter.

a step-by-step guide through Scripture

disciple:

// someone who follows Jesus and leads others to do the same.

Studying God's Word is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God, be tuned to the Holy Spirit, and get to know Jesus intimately. John 1 tells us that the Word is God, the writer of Psalms tells us it will light our path, and Jesus tells us in John 8 if we abide in His Word, we are truly His disciples.

This tool is just one of the many ways to study the Bible and dive deeper into the passages we will be studying each weekend together. Our hope is that you begin to deeply understand the scripture we will be unpacking and allow God to speak to your heart before you even walk through the doors on Sunday.

This tool is designed to help guide you as you seek to understand the context of each verse, what it meant to its original audience, and what it means to us today.

There are a few ways you can utilize this PDF.

- 01** Print the PDF.
-or-
- 02** Download the PDF, open in a notes app (GoodNotes, Notability, etc), fill it out digitally.
-or-
- 03** Use the PDF to transcribe into a notebook or journal.

5 Marks of a Disciple

- Know Jesus Intimately
- Follow the Holy Spirit Relentlessly
- Obey God's Word Completely
- Love His Church Wholeheartedly
- Seek the Lost Intentionally



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Week of December 18th // Conversation December 24th





Luke 2:25-35

This is the last of our short series for this holiday season, “Silent Nights.” Joseph and Mary are presenting their purification offering as required by the Law after the birth of a baby. A man named Simeon recognizes the baby Jesus as the promised Messiah. Simeon first thanks God for being able to see the Messiah and praises God for fulfilling His promise to him. He then prophesies about Messiah, Himself, and then makes a brief prediction about Mary. These two prophecies have quite different functions and different settings.

pray.

This week’s devotions involve the promise of God to a righteous and devout man filled with the Holy Spirit. That same Holy Spirit lives in all of us who proclaim that Jesus is our Savior. Ask God to speak to you from His Word. Ask Him to meet you where you are in your walk with Him. Ask Him for an open heart and mind.

observe.

- 01** Mark any reference to God or Lord with a  triangle.
- 02** Mark any reference to Messiah with a  crown.
- 03** Mark every reference to the Holy Spirit with a  cloud.
- 04** Draw a  heart over every time a promise is mentioned.

Luke 2:25-35 (NLT)

²⁵ At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him ²⁶ and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, ²⁸ Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace,
as you have promised.

³⁰ I have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared for all people.

³² He is a light to reveal God to the nations,
and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

³³ Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. ³⁵ As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."

Isaiah 49:6 (NLT)

He says, “You will do more than restore the people of Israel to me. I will make you a light to the Gentiles, and you will bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.”

1 Kings 8:56 (NLT)

Praise the Lord who has given rest to his people Israel, just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the wonderful promises he gave through his servant Moses.

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NLT)

For all of God’s promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding “Yes!” And through Christ, our “Amen” (which means “Yes”) ascends to God for his glory.

interpret.

01 Who was Simeon?

02 How did Simeon know that Jesus was the Messiah? (Hint: Luke 2:27)

03 What did God promise Simeon?

04 What was Joseph and Mary's reaction to Simeon's words about Jesus?

apply.

01

Reflect on a time that you wondered if God was ever going to keep a promise that He made to you. How did you continue to trust His promise during that waiting time?

02

In verse 35, Simeon prophesies to Mary “And a sword will pierce your very soul.” Mary knew she had given birth to the Messiah, but at this time, she didn’t know the details of Jesus’ eventual sacrifice. What are different ways that you might respond when you are given unexpected negative news about one of your loved ones?

bring it together.

Simeon's role in Scripture serves as a powerful testament to the hope, faith and anticipation surrounding the birth of Jesus, as well as the profound impact His life would have on mankind.

Simeon knew that Jesus wasn't just for the Jews but for the Gentiles also. Simeon's words indicate that people would react to Jesus in different ways, and that his teachings would reveal the thoughts in the hearts of many.

God keeps all of His promises that He makes to us.

connect.

We are available to answer any questions you might have.

 info@gtwy.church

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