



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 3

## **JESUS PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE**

*From the time of His dedication at the temple,  
Jesus increased in favor with God and man.*



**MONDAY**

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### **THE STORY: LUKE 2:22-24**

Jesus fulfilled the law. From the very beginning of His life, Jesus fulfilled the law. Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to be circumcised according to the everlasting covenant God made with Abraham (see Genesis 17:12). In Deuteronomy 16:6 God tells the people they must celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem (the place He chose as a dwelling for his Name). Many Jews could not travel there due to distance, but those who were able to honor God's command traveled in caravans for safety and companionship. Jesus kept the law perfectly, including these annual visits to Jerusalem. Luke 2:41 confirms that Mary and Joseph made this pilgrimage every year.

### **TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why was it important for Jesus to fulfill the Law? (Jesus stood in our place and perfectly fulfilled the Law for us. The Law was set up as the measuring rod against which sinners could see their sinfulness and transgressions before God. Because of

sin in our hearts, it is impossible for any of us to keep the Law. We are all law-breakers and therefore we should all receive the penalty of death. But Jesus, as both Son of God and Son of man, did what no other man could do - He kept the Law fully and completely!)

How do you break God's law? (Review the commandments in Exodus 20 if the children are struggling to figure out which ways they have broken God's law.)

**PRAY:**

Thank God for Jesus, who kept all of the Law. Thank Him for extending His salvation to you.



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**T U E S D A Y**

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**THE STORY: LUKE 2:36-40**

Jesus had a welcome party. Even though Jesus humbly came to earth, was born in a stable and laid in a manger, God made sure there was praise. When Christ was born, God brought angels to sing, and wise men and shepherds to worship. And God made sure there was praise when Jesus came to the temple to be dedicated. Anna, a devout woman, worshipped and prayed day and night in the temple waiting for Israel's Redeemer. As a prophetess, Anna recognized that Jesus was that Redeemer. She worshipped God and explained the significance of Jesus to those who were also waiting for redemption.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why is worship the proper way to respond to Jesus? (In Exodus 20:3-6, God commanded that we worship Him alone. Since Jesus is God, it is right and proper that He should be worshipped.)

How do we worship Jesus today? (We worship Jesus with our praise and by living for His glory.)

**PRAY:**

Ask God to help you worship Him with both your words and actions.



**WEDNESDAY  
WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?**

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**THE STORY: LUKE 2:29-35**

Simeon's prayer is filled with the gospel. When Simeon looked upon Jesus he saw God's salvation. This salvation would not just be for the Jews but for the Gentiles as well. Simeon also revealed that there would be grief for Mary as her soul would be pierced by a sword. Mary would indeed suffer as she watched Jesus crucified.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why is the mention of Gentiles significant? (God's promise to Abraham was that through him all the nations of the earth would be blessed. Now, through Jesus, both Jew and Gentile can be saved.)

What do we know that Simeon also knew? (We can know that Jesus is the Savior. Simeon knew that Jesus was the Savior because the Holy Spirit revealed it to him. Many in Simeon's day did not know who Jesus was. Because we have the written Word of God, which clearly tells us who Jesus is, we know that Simeon was right!)

**PRAY:**

Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you see and believe in Jesus the Savior, like Simeon did.



## THURSDAY

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### **THE STORY: LUKE 2:41-52**

Jesus was drawn to the temple. It was common for families to travel in caravans for fellowship and protection. It is likely that Mary and Joseph had other younger children by this time. At age 12, Jesus was close to manhood, and his parents assumed he was with another family in their caravan. It took Mary and Joseph three days to find Jesus. All along, Jesus was at the temple sitting among the teachers and asking questions. When asked about His whereabouts, Jesus simply said, “Did you not know that I must be in My Father’s house?” Already, Jesus was aware of His calling. He amazed those who met Him, and He grew in favor with God and men.

### **TALK ABOUT IT**

Was Mary angry with Jesus? (Mary was certainly upset about losing her child. If she was angry, she didn’t hold onto her anger. Instead, Luke tells us that she “treasured up all these things in her heart.” At some point Mary would transition from training Jesus to being trained by Him. Her son would become her Savior.)

Why did Jesus call the temple His Father’s house? (The temple was the place where God’s presence dwelt. It was God’s house. Since God was Jesus’ Father, the temple was His Father’s house on earth. Now, God dwells in the hearts of believers by His Spirit.)

### **PRAY**

Pray that God would make His home in the heart of every member of your family.



**FRIDAY**  
**ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**

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**THE STORY: PSALM 98:1-9**

Christ is the one who will judge the world in righteousness. It is through Jesus that God made His salvation and righteousness known to the nations. One prime example of this is Simeon's reaction when he said, "For my eyes have seen your salvation." Simeon was excited to see the Savior!

**TALK ABOUT IT**

Why can we assume the psalmist is referring to Jesus when we read about the salvation of the Lord? (There is no salvation from God apart from the cross. Whether Israel is being saved from an immediate enemy or from sin, all salvation is ultimately found in the work of Jesus Christ.)

How should we respond to God's salvation? What does the Psalmist suggest? (We should worship the Lord with shouts of joy, clap our hands, sing, and make music with all types of instruments.)

**PRAY**

Pray that God would help you see the glory of His salvation and that He would give you the same kind of joy the Psalmist and Simeon knew.