

Lesson 56: Simeon and Anna Rejoice

[Luke 2:22-40](#)

Youtube Link: <https://youtu.be/9xfOlzldlbU>

Children's Bible Story Video: https://youtu.be/ERF91OQ-p_E

Worship Theme: We thank God for Jesus.

Memory Verse: "I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders." (Psalms 9:1)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. I Am Happy <https://youtu.be/2LWPsq-KZvo>
2. I Will Enter His Gate <https://youtu.be/WvXL4DtBMdc>
3. Thank You Jesus In My Heart <https://youtu.be/MdYoscjxNeo>

Pray

Song: Select songs from the list above.

Icebreaker: Happy or Sad?

Material Needed: Draw a happy face and sad face on a paper

1. Have the children sit in a circle.
2. When the teacher shows a "Happy Face," the children must jump up in joy with a happy face.
3. When the teacher shows a "Sad Face," the children must sit down with a sad face.
4. After the game, explain to the children that we should jump up in joy with a happy face to know that Jesus came to save us!

Introduction:

How do you celebrate when a new baby is born in the family? In Cambodia, when a child is born, there are relatives, aunts, uncles, grandparents who bring gifts to visit the child, such as money, clothes, milk powder, juice, fruit, and more. We also have a big party to celebrate the 1 month birthday of the baby. In the bible, when a new baby is born, the parents had to take the baby to the temple and offer a sacrifice to present him to the Lord. So, Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to the temple to present him to God. When Jesus was born, not many people knew that Jesus was a special baby - the Messiah who will save the world. But at the temple, Mary and Joseph met two people who knew the truth! Let's learn about them today!

Bible Story:

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, there were probably a lot of people in town and at the temple. Luke 2:25-26 says, "Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah." Imagine learning that you would not die until after you got to see Jesus. That was a special promise that Simeon had been given.

When Simeon saw Mary and Joseph with a baby in their arms, he knew that this was a very special baby. He was joyful and thankful to finally see the Messiah, even though he was just a baby. Simeon knew that God kept his promise and will continue to take care of God's people.

On this day, Simeon wasn't the only one to meet baby Jesus, the Messiah. A woman named Anna was there also. She was a widow who was 84 years old. Luke 2:37 says, "She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying." This meant she lived in the temple (church) every day. She gave thanks to God for letting her meet Jesus, the Savior King of the world!

Have you given thanks to God for sending Jesus, the Savior to us? Let's thank God for Jesus, and let's thank Jesus for coming to save us.

Questions to discuss:

1. Who was the righteous and devout man who met Jesus? (Simeon)
2. Who was the 84 year old widow who met Jesus? (Anna)
3. What did they do when they met Jesus? (they gave thanks to God)
4. How can you show thanks to God for sending Jesus to save us? (let the children answer)

Game: Treasure Hunt

Materials Needed: Candies



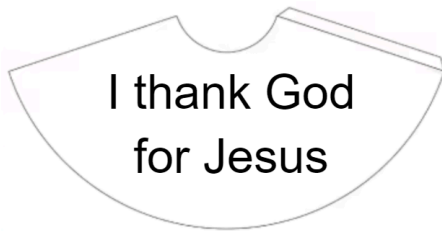
1. The teacher has to hide the candy everywhere in the classroom without telling the children.
2. Let the children search for the candy for 5 minutes.
3. The child with the most candy is the winner.
4. After the game, all children will gather their candy and share with everyone.
5. Explain to the children that they share the candies as Jesus came to share salvation with everyone.



Memory Verse: "I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders." (Psalms 9:1)

Craft: "I Thank God for Jesus" Tree

Materials Needed: Print Tree Cone (see below), crayons, glue, scissors




1. Print the tree cone for each child.
2. Have the children cut out the shape (or the teacher can cut it out for the children).
3. Have the children decorate the tree.
4. Then glue the sides to make it into a Christmas tree.

Song: Select songs from the list above

Pray

Teacher's Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)

Jesus did not have to come to us as a helpless baby. He came because we needed salvation in order to return to God. Thank God for sending Jesus to save us from sin and death. Pray to God to give you wisdom to help children understand the importance of thanking God for Jesus, the Savior of the world.



**I thank God
for Jesus**