

Series:

1/3/2021

Message: The Next Chapter

Text: Luke 2:21-40

DIGGING DEEPER GUIDE

BIG IDEA: LIVING WITH TRUST, OBEDIENCE, AND COURAGE

Getting Started

When you were growing up, what relative, teacher, or coach made you feel special? How?

Reflection/Discussion Questions

1. What does this temple ceremony reveal about the parents of Jesus? They were poor? Religious? Proud? Dedicated to God?
2. In Simeon's two prophecies (v.29-32,34-35), what was he predicting about the work of Jesus? His effect on people? The pain of his parents?
3. Do you know anyone like dear, saintly Anna? What impact would these startling predictions by Simeon and Anna about a baby have on all who were listening that day?
4. How has Christ brought "light" to your life? Did your parents dedicate you to the Lord? How did they help you mature spiritually?
5. When has God brought along a "Simeon" and "Anna" to confirm something in your life? How did this affect you?
6. "Life is a journey—I will live it with trust."
"Life is a mission—I will live it obediently."
"Life is a battle—I will live it courageously."
How do these statements impact you as you think about the new year of 2021?
7. What are the prayer requests on your mind today?

Prayer: Lord, thank you for those around us who help us to see what you are doing in our lives. May we listen well and be attentive to what they are saying. Thank you for being the light in our lives and helping us to live with trust, obedience and courage every day. Amen.

Going Deeper: Read Luke 2:1-51. This chapter tells the story of Jesus' birth through twelve years. Why do you think Luke includes only one chapter on Jesus' growing up years?

FOCUS SCRIPTURES:

SIMEON: "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." Luke 2:29-32

ANNA: "Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem." Luke 2:38