

## TEACHER'S PREPARATION



### JESUS IS SAVIOUR

#### WHAT DO WE WANT THE CHILDREN TO LEARN FROM THIS LESSON?

They will:

- \* remember that Jesus came to bring salvation.
- \* want to share the good news of salvation like Simeon and Anna.

#### MEMORY VERSE

**"She gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem."**

**Luke 2:38**



#### STUDY THE BIBLE PASSAGE

Circumcision was a sign of belonging for the Jews. It was done eight days after birth. The child was usually named then also. Perhaps the naming ceremony was similar to naming ceremonies today.

The name always had a meaning. "Jesus" meant "Saviour." Jesus' name showed the purpose for His life—to bring salvation.

The statements by Simeon and Anna when they saw Jesus were like what the angels said before Jesus' birth. All these statements showed that Jesus was the One that the Old Testament prophets had written about.



#### WHAT IS NEEDED FOR THIS LESSON?

1. Picture 1, "Simeon saw Baby Jesus" for BIBLE STORY Part 3.
2. Cut the shape of a **footprint** out of plain paper. Write on it, "**Jesus is Saviour.**" You will show this when you conclude the lesson.
3. Practice the theme song for this year (p. 5) and the song for this lesson.
4. For INTRODUCTION, bring a doll baby.

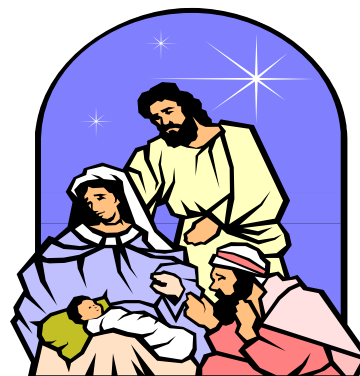


## BEGIN THE LESSON

### OPEN WITH PRAYER

#### Introduction

- ◆ TALK about naming ceremonies that the children may have been to.
- ◆ DISCUSS the meaning of names.
- ◆ DRAMA – Ask two of the children to act as parents as they hold the doll baby. Let the children act a naming ceremony.
- ◆ ASK—*Do names always have meaning? Do you know the meaning of your name?*



**1. The naming ceremony (v. 21)**

- EXPLAIN—Joseph and Mary followed the custom of the Jews.
- TELL that Jesus was named and circumcised on the eighth day.
- EXPLAIN—Joseph and Mary named Him Jesus, as the angel had said.
- REMIND the children that the name 'Jesus' means salvation. The angel had said that Jesus would bring salvation from sin.

**2. Baby Jesus dedicated (v. 22-24)**

- TELL—After 40 days, Joseph and Mary took Jesus to the temple.
- TELL—They dedicated Him to God.
- EXPLAIN—According to Jewish law, they were to offer a sacrifice.
- EXPLAIN—They offered two pigeons. This is what the Jewish law said that poor people should offer. This reminds us that God chose a poor family for His Son to be born into.

**3. Simeon recognised Jesus (v. 25-35)**

- TELL—Simeon was an old man in Jerusalem. He had been waiting for God to send the Messiah.
- TELL that when Simeon saw Baby Jesus, God's Spirit told him that this was the Messiah.
- TELL—Simeon held Baby Jesus and told God, "Thank You."
- TELL—Simeon told Mary that she, as well as Jesus, would suffer deeply.
- SHOW Picture 1.

**4. Anna thanked God (v. 36-39)**

- TELL—Another person in the temple who saw Jesus was Anna.
- EXPLAIN—Anna had been praying and waiting for a long time for the promised Messiah to come.
- TELL—When Anna saw Jesus, she thanked God that Jesus would bring blessing to the Jews.
- TELL—She went around telling people about Baby Jesus.
- TELL—Joseph and Mary returned to their home.
- TELL—Jesus grew and became strong.

**Drama activity:** Let the children act the story. Let one of the children who reads well read the words of Simeon (v. 29-32,34-35).

**To Conclude the Lesson...**

- \* The things Simeon and Anna said remind us of what the angel had said before Jesus' birth: Jesus was God's Son, sent to be the Saviour of the world.
- \* Anna immediately began telling people that Jesus was the Saviour God had promised many years before. God has given us the same joyful work: to tell other people the good news that Jesus is the Saviour of the world.
- ▶ **Teach Memory Verse now (Luke 2:38).** Remind the children of the two things Anna did: (1) "gave thanks to God" (put hands together in prayer); and (2) spoke about Jesus to other people (cup your hands around your mouth as if you are shouting some news).

**ACTIVITY:** Let some of the children volunteer to be news reporters. Let them tell or write how they might share about Jesus' birth and His trip to the temple if they were reporting it on the radio or TV.

**PRAYER:** Thank God that we can pray in the "name of Jesus."

**SONG:** "Good News, Good News, Christ died for me..." 🎵



**WALKING WITH JESUS THIS WEEK:** Show the children the footprint you made, "Jesus is Saviour."



Remind them to thank God for sending Jesus and to tell others that Jesus came to save us.