

# LUKE 2:41-52 - JESUS WAS DEDICATED

## FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

WEEK: 3/15/20 - 3/21/20

### INTRO

*Parents read this to your kids at the beginning.*

Wow! This week has been a little crazy, huh? We're not meeting all together as a church on Sundays and a lot of you are out of school! But isn't it great news that even when life changes so much, God is always with us, no matter what?! And no matter what, it's important that we spend time with Him together as a family, so we're going to have our own "Kidtown" at home! Alright, how does Kidtown normally start? That's right! With play time! So let's play...

### PLAY (10 minutes)

*In a time of high anxiety and stress, play is an easy, fun way for kids to feel relief and safe. Far from a copout, play can actually be helpful for kids and adults alike. Below we have given some suggestions for group games. Use whichever of these works best for your family. If you don't like these games, feel free to make arts and crafts, color or give your children some free play time.*

#### **Group Game Suggestions:**

##### **Option 1: Mirror Mirror (2K - 5K)**

Stand in front of your child, about a few feet apart, and have them attempt to copy all your movements. Reach up and stretch to the sky. Do 10 jumping jacks. Run in place. Act like a monkey. Make it fun and you'll both be working up a sweat in no time. Then switch roles and copy your child – they won't be able to hold back the laughter (and neither will you!)

##### **Option 2: Hot Potato (5K - 3rd)**

This indoor game can get a little giggly, so be warned! It is great though, because it is one of those games to play with preschool kids up through older grade school ages. Simply get any soft ball or rolled up socks and underhand-toss it to a child. Instruct them to under-hand toss it to someone else as quickly as possible. Each child repeats this. When does this game end? Who knows? Just get rid of it! If you have enough children, play short segments of music while they toss the object, stop the music, and the last child to touch it when the music stops is out of the game. Repeat until there is only 1 child.

##### **Option 3: Figure Skating (2nd - 5th)**

*Needed materials: dryer sheets*

Clear an area in a room with hardwood floors and allow kids to slide around on dryer sheets as if they are figure skating.

## SING (5 minutes)

*Kids love singing and it's a great way to start to direct their energy in a Godward direction before the lesson. To make it easy, you can have the kids sing along to the lyric videos linked below.*

- [James 1:5](#) (A Kidtown Favorite!)
- [The Word Was God](#) (Current Key Passage Song)

## LESSON (10 minutes)

*One of the most important ways we get to disciple kids is by helping teach the truth of God's Word and how it points towards Jesus.*

### Tell the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Luke 2. Show the Bible story video [Jesus Was Dedicated](#).

Wow! What a story! It may not seem like there was a lot of action going on, but we get to see a lot about the character of God! Why don't we go over who all the people were? (Let kids answer).. Good job! The parents were big in this story! So let's start now with...

**Story Point #1! (Kids repeat, "Story Point #1!") Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to dedicate Him (kids repeat).** I want to point out that Mary and Joseph obeyed the laws God had given His people about how to present a baby at the temple. They were being obedient! Jesus' parents knew Jesus was God's Son and were committed to raising Him the way God said to raise children. Jesus' whole life perfectly fulfilled God's laws, even when He was just a baby! Now there's an ancient saying, you'll never know what will happen at the temple, just kidding, but it seems true! Which leads us to...

**Story Point #2! (Kids repeat, "Story Point #2!"): Simeon said that Jesus would save God's people (kids repeat).** We see that this man, Simeon, found Jesus in the temple because God's Spirit led him there. God told Simeon that he would live to see the day the Messiah arrived, and God is always faithful. Simeon praised God and declared the truth about Jesus: He would save people from sin. God's people had been waiting for years and years to see the Messiah, but not everyone lived to meet Him. What a special feeling that must have been for Simeon. Not only to see the Messiah, but also to know that God had kept His promise. This is what I mean when I said that we got to see a lot about the character of God! And now we'll move to....

**Story Point #3! (Kids repeat, "Story Point #3!") Anna told people that Jesus had come (kids repeat).** Who was Anna? (*Let kids respond if you want*) Right! She was an older woman who loved God and would spend her time at the temple! After Anna met Jesus, she began to tell those around her about Jesus. She was so happy! We can look at this in other passages with Jesus, but most of the time do you know what the first thing people did was after they met Jesus? They told others about Him! She understood God's faithfulness too. The people had been waiting for salvation, and the One who would provide it had finally arrived. Both Anna and Simeon were very excited about a baby, why is that? Because the baby was cute..? No that's not why! Let's go to the Christ connection to see why! Repeat after me:

**Christ Connection! (Kids yell, "Christ Connection!") Jesus was the Savior that God's people were waiting for. (kids repeat)** Simeon and Anna did not just understand who Jesus is; they told others about Him and what He would do. Throughout the Old Testament, God promised the arrival of a King who would redeem people. When Jesus arrived, Simeon and Anna knew He was the promised Messiah. Today, we have faith that Jesus is God's Son. We can trust Jesus for our salvation, and like Simeon and Anna, we should share the good news.

## RESPONSE TIME (15 minutes)

*The goal of small group time is to discuss and apply what we learned from the Bible. If you have a lot of kids or various ages, break your group down into smaller groups for discussion, reflection and prayer time.*

### Discussion

What stood out to you all from this story?

- *Let kids answer. Non-spiritual answers are okay—we want them to interact with Scripture, not just regurgitate facts.*

What had God promised to Simeon? *That he would live to see the Messiah.*

- *Did God keep this promise? Yes! He saw Jesus at the temple!*

Read: Luke 2:29-32. What did Simeon say about Jesus? *That He was the promised Messiah and that He would be a light for the world!*

What did Anna do after she met Jesus? *She told lots of people about Him!*

Does anyone have any questions or was there anything confusing about this lesson?

- *Allow time for questions and if you don't know the answers, that's okay. Affirm their question and let them know that you don't know and then tell your director afterwards.*

**Main Application:** We can rejoice like Simeon that Jesus came to be our Savior!

- Adults first then kids - Is it easy to remember to praise God for what he has done? Why?
- Adults first then kids - What can you do to help yourself remember to rejoice like Simeon did?
- Adults first then kids - Is there anyone in your life right now that needs to know about Jesus as Savior? Who? We'll pray for them in a bit.

### Reflection

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child or tell them to get their journals. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- What is one thing I need to do in light of this story? (Help the kids think of ways they can grow, how they might pray for help or practical steps of repentance they can take.)

After the kids have had time to write down their reflection questions, go around the circle and share one at a time (kids and adults).

## SNACK (5-10 minutes)

*Taking a break for a snack helps give kids a developmental break after the lesson and be used as a simple reward/incentive for focus during Small Group Time. For Kidtown we keep snacks simple with Goldfish for most kids and Gummy snacks for kids who have Gluten allergies.*

## LESSON ACTIVITY (10 minutes)

*This lesson activity is optional based on time. If you need to fill time it can help reinforce what the kids learned in the lesson, but can easily be cut if you're running short.*

### Wait For It

Gather everyone together. Suggest a simple action, such as run in place, pat your head, or shake a friend's hand. Instruct boys and girls to wait to begin moving until a signal is given. Watch a clock's second hand as children anticipate beginning to move. Build excitement and finally give the signal for the boys and girls to move. Continue playing and emphasize the waiting, pre-movement time.

*Say • Simeon and Anna waited a long time to meet Jesus. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he saw the Savior who would rescue people from sin. How happy he was when he met Baby Jesus! When Anna saw Jesus, she thanked God and told people that Jesus the Savior had been born. Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus and told others the good news.*

## PRAYER TIME! (15 minutes)

*From an early age, we want to teach our kids that prayer is the fuel for our lives as Christians. We depend on God for everything and prayer helps us remember that. Especially in these uncertain times, prayer is one of our most important disciplines as God's people.*

### Pray For Each Other:

#### Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- How do you need prayer this week?
- What is one thing you need Jesus to help you with this week?
- What is one way you're hoping Jesus will help you grow this week?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to write down the other kids' prayer requests. Then have each kid pray for the person on their right!

### Pray For Jesus' Mission:

#### Questions to Ask (pick 1):

- What friends or neighbors of yours can we pray for today?
- How can you show God's love this week to someone who might not know Him?

**Pray:** Invite each kid to pray for their friends or someone else's friend to come to know Jesus. Have one adult close out the time, thanking God for how we get to be family together and asking God to bring more people into His family!