



GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

WEEK 3 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- What stresses you out the most during the holidays?
- What is your favorite Christmas thing to do?

CONSIDER

- What was encouraging or challenging from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

CHRIST

Read Luke 2:22-35 as a group.

- This week, we will be looking at the question, “Do you know what I know?” Simeon knew something that altered the course of his life. He would not die before he had seen the Messiah. How did he come upon this knowledge from the Holy Spirit? The answer might be how he is described. This passage says that Simeon was righteous (he lived rightly before people), devout (he lived rightly before God), and dependent (he moved by the Spirit). Each is a way of pursuing the things of God. When we draw near to God, He draws near to us. That’s when we can know Him more and listen clearly. **Which of those three descriptions encourages and challenges your faith? What do you need to do this season to better know God?**
- In these verses we see Simeon being overcome with peace and joy because God had promised Simeon that he would meet the Messiah. And here he was meeting Him, just as God said he would. **What about Jesus brings you the most peace? How does He bring you joy? If you don’t feel peace, what do you need to give to Jesus so you can begin to feel that peace?**
- Simeon waited a LONG TIME to meet Jesus! There are so many examples throughout the Bible where God does a lot of good work in our lives during waiting periods. But waiting is hard, no matter how old or young you are. Kids wait for Christmas presents and maybe, as an adult, you’re waiting for Christmas to be over! Ha Ha! **This year, instead of viewing waiting as a bad thing, how can you see the good that is happening in your life during a waiting period?**

Read Matthew 25:35-40.

- During our Behold series, we have been looking deeply at how and why we should behold Jesus. Simeon showed us how he beheld Jesus in that moment of meeting Him. And fun fact, we might meet Jesus more often than we think we do. In Matthew 25:40, we see Jesus say, “*The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’*” Whenever we encounter the sick and poor, we also encounter Jesus. **This holiday season, how can you behold Jesus by encountering the least of these and taking care of them? Maybe it looks like going to the soup kitchen, or maybe making it a goal to start volunteering in 2023!**

CALLING

Christmas often turns into being all about the gifts, but it is really about the gift of Jesus! This Christmas season, how can you and your family be better about not stressing out about gifts and focus more on the worship of Jesus? How can you focus more on simply being STILL and just KNOWING God is God and He is with you?

Daily Devotions

Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text DEVO to 81212 or use the Study tab in Northside’s mobile app for daily devotions.

Memorize

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

Psalm 46:10a

Further Study

- Watch *The Birth of Jesus (Luke 1-2)*:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OLezoUvOEQ&list=PLQKIlmCrfBd1HtR1MLLIZIWMBBy2MjrMJ7