

6. Simeon was led by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit directed him to Jesus and revealed to him Jesus' identity. What are you doing to make sure your path is directed by the Lord and you hear what you need to hear from the Lord? Are there any adjustments you need to make? If so, what?

7. **Simeon focused on the Lord, put his hope in the Lord, and his path was directed by the Lord. Of the three—focus, hope, and direction—which do you need most now and why?**

8. **In what area of your life would a constant sense of God's presence and activity make the most difference? Pray together and ask God for that for yourself and for the others in your group.**

9. Pray and ask the Lord to show you what you need to *know* and what you need to *do* in response to what you've heard and read this week. Write here what comes to mind. Share your answer with your group if appropriate.

IN YOUR GROUP

TALK IT OVER with friends right now, using the **bold** questions above. In your Cornerstone Community group this week, discuss your answers to the ON YOUR OWN questions. In a one-hour online group session, you might spend a 10-15 minutes catching up, 40 minutes talking through the discussion questions above, and 15-20 minutes praying for one another and planning ways the group can meet needs and serve others.

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mail: PO Box 1011, Concord, NH 03302-1011

Voice or Text: 603-225-2550

Email: CONTACTUS@CORNERSTONENH.ORG

WITH YOUR GENEROSITY YOU'RE PLAYING A PART IN
MORE PEOPLE SAYING YES! TO JESUS!

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Christmas. Better.

12/12-13/2020

WATCH, LISTEN & MORE AT

[CORNERSTONENH.ORG](https://www.cornerstonenh.org)

Your name _____

Growth Guide

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

CONNECT AT CORNERSTONE

We want to encourage, inform, and connect with you! Go to [CornerstoneNH.org](https://www.cornerstonenh.org) and click on the New Here? link. (You can also text NEW to 603-225-2550.)

LIFE. BETTER.

*FOLLOWING JESUS MAKES LIFE BETTER
AND MAKES YOU BETTER AT LIFE.*

MESSAGE NOTES

PRESENT & ACTIVE

TODAY: DISAPPOINTMENT • LUKE 2:21-32

THE BOTTOM LINE

THE LORD IS

_____ & _____.

He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel.

— Luke 2:25 NLT

COMFORT RECEIVED

He was waiting for the consolation of Israel...

— Luke 2:25 NIV



CONSOLATION:

the comfort received by a person after a loss or disappointment.

JESUS: THE LORD SAVES

Eight days later, when the baby was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel even before he was conceived. – Luke 2:21 NLT

(Jesus' name reflects his dual identity and his purpose: He is the Lord, the God who created all things, now come in the flesh to save the world. Immanuel is God with Us.)

Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses – Luke 2:22 NLT

("Purification" is catharsis, cleansing; the removal of all barriers to relationship. Even in his first days on earth Jesus is identifying with sinful humanity, foreshadowing his work to save sinful humanity.)

SIMEON IS AMONG THE FIRST TO RECOGNIZE THAT
THE LORD IS PRESENT & ACTIVE IN JESUS
At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon.
– Luke 2:25a NLT

SIMEON'S _____ WAS ON THE LORD

He was righteous and devout... – Luke 2:25b NLT

SIMEON'S _____ WAS IN THE LORD

...and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come
and rescue Israel. – Luke 2:25c NLT

SIMEON'S _____ WAS DIRECTED BY THE LORD

The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he
would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.
– Luke 2:25d-26 NLT

Led by the Spirit... – Luke 2:25 MSG

"Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have
promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared
for all people." – Luke 2:29-31 NLT

Saying "YES!" to Jesus? Text **YES** to **603-225-2550**

*Let us celebrate your decision
& resource you for your new life in Christ.*

"He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of
your people Israel!" – Luke 2:32 NLT

THE CHALLENGE

Be like _____.

*What's one step you can take to shift your focus, hope, or
direction? Write it here:*

ON YOUR OWN

Answer these questions this week to reflect and go deeper.

- 1. Tell about a time when you received consolation after a loss or disappointment.**
- Brian mentioned a couple of ways the people of Israel at the time of Jesus' birth had experienced loss or disappointment. Can you name one or more from the message or your own knowledge of the time?
- How did the meaning of Jesus' name—The Lord Saves—reveal his identity and purpose?
- Let's meditate on (turn over in our minds) Luke 2:25. Simeon was described as "righteous and devout." Righteousness reflects a right relationship with God and other people. Devout has the same root meaning as devotion. What activities to you associate with these characteristics?
- Simeon was "eagerly waiting" for the Lord to "rescue" Israel. What kinds of rescue or help would you like right now? In what other things besides the Lord might people put their hope for rescue?