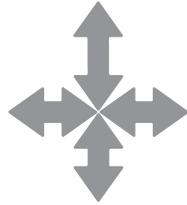




GUIDE FOR GROUP STUDY: the week of January 13th

This study is designed to help your community group grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. There are three dimensions to following Jesus.



UP: growing in relationship with God

IN: growing in relationship with other followers of Jesus

OUT: growing in relationship with the world around us as we join God in God's mission

Get Started:

When in your life have you had to wait for something for an extended time? What was that experience like?



UP: Connect with God through Spending Time in His Word

Read aloud the passage for the week: Luke 2:21-32. Allow a few moments to silently reflect on what you heard. Underline or note words or phrases that seem meaningful. Pray for your study of God's Word.

1. What do you think of Simeon's response when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus into the temple? What is your response when God intercedes in your life?
2. Simeon waited for the restoration of Israel and is identified as righteous, devout, and moved by God's Spirit. When you are in a season of waiting do you adopt any specific practices? How could you or have you pursued God in these seasons?
3. Simeon announces that the good news of Christ is for all nations. How would you define the "Good News" of Jesus Christ? How can this news be received in a world with so many different values, beliefs, traditions, and thoughts?
4. How is the good news that was relevant for Simeon two thousand years ago still relevant today?
5. It is our mission to carry the light of Christ. How can you intentionally carry out this mission?



IN: Connect with Each Other

Take time to share about places of doubt in your life, places where you find it hard to believe that Christ really can shine his light to illuminate truth. Pray for those areas or people specifically.



Out: : Connect with the World Around Us (Join God in His Mission)

Take time to create a personal, family, or Life Group mission statement. Try to include this grand mission we are invited to partake in, that of carrying the light of Christ. Write down the mission statement and share it with your group the next time you meet.