



And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. (Luke 2:21)

In Luke 2, we're told of two people who crossed paths with Jesus.

Simeon

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." (Luke 2:25-35)

Anna

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. (2:36-38)

So what can we learn that will help us in our own walk with Jesus? Let's dig in...



For Class & Family Discussion:

1. Looking back a little at what Luke has documented in his Gospel before telling us about Simeon and Anna, what had already happened to show that this was no ordinary child? Can you find the reason why he was named “Jesus”?
2. In Luke 2:22-24, Luke references things being done “according to the Law of Moses.” Let’s take a quick field trip back to Leviticus 12. About how old would Jesus have been when he crossed paths with Simeon? And with the help of Leviticus 12:8, what do we learn about Joseph and Mary?
3. What do you think Luke means when he tells us in 2:25 that Simeon, a “righteous and devout” man was “waiting for the consolation of Israel”? And what about this reference to “the Lord’s Christ” in 2:26? What (or who) was Simeon waiting for?
4. As you look back at what Simeon said in 2:29-35, what stands out to you?
5. And what about Anna in 2:36-38? What are we being told through these two people who crossed paths with Jesus at such a young age? When most of us think of “crossing paths” with a baby, we really don’t think about our lives being dramatically changed, so what did Simeon and Anna believe was so special about *this* baby?
6. So what about us? We want not only to “cross paths” with Jesus, but to walk with him as his disciples. So what should we carry away with us from the stories of Simeon and Anna?