PRESCHOOL GUIDE

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JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT FOR THE KING

ADVENT: THE KING IS COMING!

BIG TRUTH: JESUS FOLLOWERS WAIT FOR THE KING

Genesis 49:18; Psalm 27:14; 39:7; 130:5; Isaiah 33:2; Lamentations 3:25-26; Micah 7:7; 1 Corinthians 1:7; Revelation 19:16

BIBLE VERSE: LUKE 2:25-26

"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."

BIG IDEAS

- We wait patiently for our King.
- We wait expectantly for our King.
- We wait faithfully for our King.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 2:22-35

God's people wait for the King to come. Simeon was a righteous and devout man who waited faithfully and expectantly for the promised Messiah. He remained faithful to God and obeyed His commands because he believed God would send the Messiah. He got to see the Messiah because he waited patiently and faithfully.

ADVENT

Advent is a special celebration and contemplation of the coming of Jesus Christ that Christians participate in during the Christmas season. Advent literally means "arrival" or "coming". During Advent season God's people remember and rejoice in Jesus' first coming to save his people from their sins, while at the same time long with anticipation and expectation for his return. Advent centers on Jesus, the saving Son. He alone is the one true King!

BIG AIMS

KNOW

Every child should know that:

- Jesus is the one and only King.
- Jesus came and is coming again.
- We exist for Jesus.

FEEL

Every child should feel:

- The longing within their soul for the King.
- A dissatisfaction within their soul for things of the world.
- Awe and wonder that the King has come and is coming again.

DO

Every child should strive to:

- Spend time each week with their family talking about the King.
- Memorize the Bible Verse each week.
- Tell someone else about the King who came and is coming again.

WANT

Every child should want:

- Trust the King in the everyday struggles of life.
- See and seek Jesus more than anything else this Christmas season.
- Tell others who are lost about the good news of the King.

FAMILY DEVOTION: THE KING WHO IS COMING

Simeon believed the Messiah would come. He waited faithfully for the Messiah. God's people believe the King will return and they wait patiently for Him.

FDP
FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP PLAN

Property of Tri-Cities Baptist Church
171 Promise Land Dr. Gray, TN 37615

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Simeon was a righteous and devout man.
"Now there was a man in Jerusalem, who name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout…"

- In Luke 2, Simeon is briefly mentioned, but his life is an example to us all. Simeon is described as a righteous and devout man. He was a Godly man who sought to live rightly before God. He was a devout man, devoting his life to serving God.
- Simeon's daily life revealed that he was a man of God because he lived each day faithfully for God. He sought to obey God's commands and to live righteously for Him.

Jesus is the consolation of Israel.
"Waiting for the consolation of Israel…"

- Simeon waited expectantly for the consolation of Israel. Jesus is the consolation of Israel and the world because He brought salvation to mankind.
- A consolation is something that is a comfort to others. Jesus was the consolation that Simeon was waiting for. Jesus brings comfort to all those who believe in Him for salvation because He lived the perfect life and died the death we all deserved to die.

Simeon trusted God's promises and waited expectantly for the King.
"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."

- Simeon lived a life of expectation and trust. He believed God's promises. He believed God would save the world through the coming King. He believed God would allow him, Simeon, to see the consolation of Israel before he died. He waited expectantly, knowing that God would do what He had promised.
- Simeon waited for the King. He saw the King when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus into the temple. Simeon's trust and faith were made sight as he saw firsthand God's promise fulfilled.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 2:22-25

Jesus Followers Wait For The King

Opening Illustration:
Bring in a few wrapped presents. Ask the preschoolers to guess what's inside each present and then give them a chance to open the presents. Talk about what was inside of each present and how exciting it is to open presents. Remind them that it's exciting to think about our King returning. We can wait for Him patiently, expectantly, and faithfully.

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BIG IDEA: WE WAIT PATIENTLY FOR OUR KING.[1]

Simeon believed God.

- Simeon trusted God. He didn't just partially believe God's promise to send a Messiah. He whole-heartedly believed that God was going to send the Messiah as He had promised.
- Simeon lived his life believing God and he proved it by waiting for the King to come.
- His life showed that he was waiting for the King to come.
- He was looking for the King and waiting for the King.

DO

Play a game of "Follow The Leader" with the preschoolers. Allow them to take turns being the leader. Talk with them about how they felt waiting to be the leader. Remind them that God's people wait for the King to come.

Simeon waited patiently for the Messiah.

- The Messiah coming was something that God's people longed for and really wanted to see happen.
- Simeon waited patiently. He always believed that the Messiah was going to come and he got to see the Messiah in the flesh before he died.

We can wait patiently for the King to come.

- Just like Simeon waited patiently for the Messiah to come, we can wait, too.
- Simeon didn't doubt in his heart that the Messiah was going to come.
- He really believed that He was coming and He waited patiently. We can wait for the King's return by living out our faith and trusting God's timing and not our own.

How did Simeon wait patiently for the King to come? (He trusted God's timing and not his own and lived expecting the King to come.)

1. *James 5:7-8: God's people are commanded to wait patiently for His return and they can because He will return as promised.*

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BIG IDEA: WE WAIT EXPECTANTLY FOR OUR KING.[2]

Simeon really believed the Messiah was coming.

- Simeon had to trust God that God was sending the Savior to the world who would pay the sin debt that every person owed.
- He believed the Messiah was real and that He would come and rescue the world from its sin.

We can wait expectantly for the King.

- As followers of Christ, we do look forward to the day He returns to the earth and ushers in His eternal reign as our King.
- We look to the day when Jesus comes again and makes everything new again. He will remove all sin and death will be no more.
- Jesus followers today wait expectantly for this day.

DO

Play a game of musical ball or musical chairs. After you play the game a few times, talk with the preschoolers about how they had to wait to start a new game. Remind them that it can be hard to wait for our King to come, too. We can be like Simeon and wait patiently, expectantly, and faithfully.

We reveal our faith by living in anticipation of Jesus' return.

- We reveal that we believe God's Word to be true and His promises to be faithfully fulfilled.
- We live expectantly by living faithfully for God. We live seeking to please Him, knowing that any day the King could return as He has promised.

What does it mean to wait expectantly for the King? (It means to live as if Jesus could come back any day.)

2. *Psalm 27:14: Those who wait for the Lord are not forsaken. We can wait expectantly for Him because He is trustworthy.*

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BIG IDEA: WE WAIT FAITHFULLY FOR OUR KING.[3]

Simeon lived a faithful life for God.

- Simeon is described as righteous and devout.
- To be righteous is to be right with God. To be devout is to devote your life to what you believe in.
- Simeon lived a right life before God, He obeyed God's commands and he devoted His life to waiting for the King to come.

DO

Play a game of "Simon Says." Let the preschoolers take turns giving the commands. Remind them that we have to wait for the King to return.

We can wait faithfully for the King to come.

- We can wait faithfully for the King to return to earth. We can trust God's Word and seek to obey His commands.
- We can live like Simeon seeking to be right with God by living holy and righteous lives.
- We can be holy by doing what God tells us to do. When we choose to obey God and the Bible, we are choosing to live holy and right lives.

When we obey, we wait faithfully.

- Waiting faithfully involves obedience. Simeon was obedient to God. He understood how the Spirit was guiding him and he sought to please God by doing what God commanded him to do.
- We can wait faithfully just like Simeon
- When we seek obedience instead of our way, we will live faithful lives to God.
- As we live a faithful life to God, we will wait faithfully for the King to come. We will want Him to return and long for Him to come back again that He might reign on earth and He does in heaven.

What does faithfulness require? (It requires total obedience to God's Word.)

3. *1 Samuel 12:24: God's people should live faithful lives to Him knowing His return is imminent.*

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HOOKS

KNOW

How Patient?

Write the word patient on the board and have the preschoolers practice saying it out loud. Tell the preschoolers what being patient means. Ask the preschoolers to help you think of things they have to have patience with, such as waiting their turn, playing with their friends, eating a snack, etc. Remind them that God's people wait patiently for the King to return.

DO

FEEL

What Will It Be Like?

Give the children a blank piece of paper and ask them to draw a picture of their favorite toy or stuffed animal. Give them crayons to decorate their papers. AS they draw, ask them to think about what it will be like when the King returns. Help them name some of the things that will be different, such as no more tears, pain, or separation.

WANT

Come Jesus Come

Model praying for the return of the King by leading the children in a time of prayer. As you pray, ask for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven and pray for the King to return to earth to make all things new again.