



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
R O C H E S T E R

Sermon Discussion Guide
December 8, 2024

Refresh

Read Luke 2:21-28 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

Discuss

Why was it theologically significant for Jesus to be circumcised as a baby? What would the spiritual implications be for us if He were not? How does this act, along with every other act of obedience, qualify Him as our sufficient substitute?

How do we see the suffering of Jesus from the very start of his life on earth? Why might it be helpful for us to recognize Jesus' suffering, not merely during the passion week at the end of his life, but even from the early days of his life?

As you look at the circumstances of Joseph and Mary's lives, it is clear that they were poor. Yet, we know that they were immensely blessed. How does this push back against the prosperity gospel that equates wealth with blessing? How does this inform us of how God understands provision and blessing?

How might Jesus' coming in lowly circumstances encourage us today? In what ways does His coming in poverty help us understand what is truly valuable in this world?

Despite years of waiting, Simeon's unwavering faith and hope in God's promises stand out in this text. In what ways can we exhibit Simeon's example of expectant waiting in our lives? How do we stay hopeful when God's promises seem delayed?

How should the fulfillment of God's promise to Simeon that he would see the Messiah before he dies encourage us? Why do you think God shows us the fulfillment of many of His promises in Scripture? How can we better remember God's faithfulness when we are tempted not to believe His Word?