



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

**Sermon Discussion Guide**  
**December 15, 2024**

**Refresh**

Read Luke 2:28-35 to get the Scripture passage back in your mind.

**Discuss**

Having met Jesus in verse 29, Simeon was ready to depart in peace and meet the Lord for eternity. In what ways is this a picture of how our meeting Jesus readies us for eternity?

What is interesting about the way Simeon describes baby Jesus in verse 30? How is this description consistent with the witness of the New Testament as it relates to Jesus? Take some time to reflect on the profound reality this verse conveys concerning Jesus.

How does verse 32 signal the broader purpose of why Jesus came? Why should this be an incredible reality for us today? How does this help us understand the magnitude of what is happening in the coming of Jesus?

Take some time to read Ephesians 2:13-22 as a group. How is this passage connected to Simeon's words in Luke 2:32? Take some time to give God thanks for His glorious plan to redeem all peoples.

How do Simeon's words in Luke 2:34-35 help us better grasp what Jesus would do during his life and ministry on earth? In what ways would this have been challenging news for Mary to hear?

How does this dialogue between Simeon and Mary help us better understand the peace Jesus brings to the earth? Why is it important to rightly understand the peace that was promised through Messiah? What are the dangers of misunderstanding this peace?

In what ways would Jesus's life be a particular hardship for Mary personally? How could Mary simultaneously be "blessed among women" and "highly favored" (Luke 1:28, 42) while also experiencing "a sword" piercing through her soul (Luke 2:35)? How can we reconcile someone supposedly blessed by God experiencing such profound suffering?