



Extended Notes for December 20, 2015

Simeon & Anna

Introduction

Each week we will meet a different character in Luke's story that relates to the *unwrapping of God's kingdom* and the purposes He has for the world. Each of these characters will receive some sort of *news* – good news about the miracle of Christmas! But they all respond differently and therefore teach us significant lessons *about not putting a lid on what God can do*. What Luke wants to do is shake us up and awaken us to the amazing reality that Christmas means that God through Jesus has come – and therefore because of this *anything is possible with God*.

Meet the Simeon & Anna

READ Luke 2:22-32

READ Isaiah 42:6

READ Isaiah 49:6

READ Isaiah 52:10

READ Isaiah 60:3

READ Luke 2:33-35

Simeon's prophecy: Friendship with God through Christ is *now* available to all who would _____.

READ John 15:15

READ John 14:18-24

READ Luke 2:36-38

Anna's prophecy: The "wait" for God's promised intervention in the world is _____.

Two Lessons from Simeon & Anna Faith:

1) Don't put a "lid" on what God offers you _____!

READ Rom. 5:1-5

READ Phil. 4:10-13

READ Phil. 4:19

2) Don't put a "lid" on what God offers _____.

READ Luke 24:44-49

Don't Put a Lid on It! - Unwrapping the Kingdom

Simeon & Anna

Questions for Reflection:

- 1) What was Simeon waiting for? What specifically did Simeon say that Jesus meant for himself, Israel and the all the Gentiles?
- 2) What warning did Simeon give to Mary? What is the significance of it for us today?
- 3) What about aspects of our salvation can we experience right NOW? How does thinking about these things change your perspective on your current circumstances?
- 4) What did Anna do with the good news she received in seeing Jesus? What do you sense that God is calling you to do with the good news of Christmas that you have received?