



Advent- Hope
When Dreams Come True
Simeon- Luke 2:25-32

The four weeks before Christmas teach us how to **anticipate or 'advent' well.**

We all have desires, dreams, and longings. It could be you are waiting for a child, a new job, good health, graduation, a wedding, or even more deeply, healing in your heart. This week we are going to learn that **dreams do come true when Christ is in it.** What was it about Simeon, that allowed him to personally have his deepest longings met in Christ?

1. Read Luke 2:25. Discuss what the oppression must have been like for people living in Israel back then. What does it mean that Simeon was 'righteous' and 'devout'? What was perhaps his greatest desire?

2. Read Luke 2:25b-27a. Discuss your understanding of the Holy Spirit. What does it look like in your life to engage with God's Spirit this way? How do you think it affected Simeon's life?

- a. Indwelling (1 Corinthians 6:19; John 14:17)
- b. Illumination (John 14:26)
- c. In Step (Galatians 5:16a, 18a, 25a).

3. Read Luke 2:27b-28. When dreams come true!

What must that have been like for Simeon to meet the Savior? Discuss how God transformed Simeon's desires through his walk with God, and then how God met him personally to bless him.

4. Read Luke 2:29-32. Notice that Israel was still under oppression and that nothing had really changed. God had just met Simeon personally within his deepest longings, and his heart was filled with satisfaction. How has God changed your desires as you have walked with Him? How has He personally met you and blessed you within your deepest longings? Discuss.

Application

Take a few minutes to pray quietly and tell God what you desire. Ask him to meet you there and to guide you towards his heart.

Luke 2:25-32

Big Idea: Dreams Come True when Christ is in it.

A. Wanting What God Wants (V. 25a)

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, **waiting for the consolation of Israel.**

What was Simeon's lens?

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Hosea 5:2

"But you, O Bethlehem...from you shall come forth for me one who is to be **ruler in Israel**, whose coming forth is from of old, from **ancient of days.**"

Isaiah 7:14

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the **virgin shall conceive** and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Isaiah 9:6

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the **government** shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 49:8

"Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favor I have answered you; in a **day of salvation** I have helped you; I will keep you and give you as a **covenant** to the people, to establish the land, to apportion the desolate heritages,"

Malachi 4:2

"But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with **healing** in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall."

What was Simeon's lens?

Isaiah 40:1, 3 & 31b

"**Comfort, comfort** my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem...A voice cries: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord!...They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength...'"

Isaiah 51:3

"For the Lord **comforts** Zion; he **comforts** all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song."

Isaiah 57:18

"I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore **comfort** to him and his mourners."

B. Walking with God (v. 25b-27a)

and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.

²⁶ 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. ²⁷ And he came **in the Spirit** into the temple, >add each on click<

Judges 15:14 "The spirit of the Lord rushed upon him..."

1 Chron. 12:18- "Then the spirit of the Lord clothed Amasai."

Ezekiel 11:5- "And the Spirit of the Lord fell upon me."

Psalms 51:11- "Take not your Spirit from me."

B. Walking with God (v. 25b-27a)

1. Indwelling

and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.

²⁶ 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. ²⁷ And he came **in the Spirit** into the temple,

1 Corinthians 6:19- "...your bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit..."

John 14:17- "...He lives with you and shall be in you."

B. Walking with God (v. 25b-27a)

2. Illumination

and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.

²⁶ 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. ²⁷ And he came **in the Spirit** into the temple,

B. Walking with God (v. 25b-27a)

3. In Step

and the **Holy Spirit** was upon him.

²⁶ 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. ²⁷ And he **came in the Spirit** into the temple,

C. When Dreams Come True (v. 27b-28)

and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

D. Christ Our Expectation (v. 29-32)

²⁹ "Lord, **now** you are letting your servant depart in **peace**, according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your **salvation** ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a **light for revelation to the Gentiles**, and for **glory to your people** Israel."

Big Idea: Dreams Come True when Christ is in it.