



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Week of July 11, 2021*

*Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.*

### **Sermon Text**

Luke 2:25-35

***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, 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, 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, 29 "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation 31 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." 33 And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed 35 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."***

*If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiichurch.org/sermononline>*

## Summary

In this week's passage, Simeon, filled with the Holy Spirit, greets Joseph and Mary in the temple. Taking the infant Jesus in his arms, Simeon blesses, worships, and praises God for allowing him to see the "consolation of Israel". Although Scripture does not tell us much about Simeon, we know the most important thing about him - he was a devout man who recognized in baby Jesus, God's salvation, the light of the gentiles, and the glory of God's people, Israel.

## Discussion Questions

1. In Luke 2:25-27, we learn that the Holy Spirit was upon Simeon, revealing to him and leading him to the Son of God. Earlier in Luke 1:15, 1:35, 1:41, and 1:67, we read how the Holy Spirit led and directed John, Mary, Elizabeth and Zechariah to Jesus Christ. In John 16:14 Jesus says of the Holy Spirit "He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you." Based on all the above, what would you say is the role of the Holy Spirit in your life today? Also, based on the above passages, how does the Holy Spirit manifest His presence and power in a believer's life?
2. As soon as Simeon held the infant Jesus in his arms, he knew that his long wait for the "consolation of Israel" was over. Simeon's life was fulfilled in Christ, and he could now "depart in peace". What are some things people think they need in order to live a full life? How about you...what do you think will make your life complete? Do you hold on to Jesus Christ with a wonder, affection, comfort, fulfillment and joy similar to Simeon? If yes, explain what that looks and feels like in your daily life. If not, what do you think would help you to be more like Simeon?
3. In v.32, Simeon calls Jesus "a light for revelation to the gentiles." What do you think this means? In what way is Jesus Christ a light to

the world? Personally, how did Jesus bring light into your darkness? Who is someone in your life right now that needs the light of Christ and how can you be a “light bearer” to that person?

4. In our sermon, we heard that Jesus is like a litmus test (i.e. a decisively indicative test). What we believe about Jesus will determine who we are before a holy and righteous God. Are we for or against him? Do we love or reject him? He’s either Savior and Lord or an object of scorn. There is no in between. Describe how some people try to live in this “in between” space. What does this look like in a person’s life? What would you say to someone who says, “I suppose I’m Christian”? What do you think Jesus would say to that person?