



Rembrandt, "Simeon's Song of Praise" 163

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sermon Based Small Group Plan

January 7, 2018

"Delight and Legacy"

Leading: Pastor Dave Rohde

Scripture: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

& Luke 2:21-38

Open in Prayer

Fellowship Question: When you were growing up, what teacher, coach, or relative made you feel special?

Study Questions for the Sermon and Text:

1. When do you "take down" Christmas in your house?
2. What do you know about the Season of Epiphany? Have you ever done anything to celebrate or acknowledge it? Why do you think it often goes unnoticed/unrecognized by Western Christians today?
3. Luke 2:21-38 tells the story of Mary and Joseph going through the rituals that were connected to newborn children in first century Judaism. What are some "newborn rituals" we practice in our culture?
4. When Jesus and his family enter the temple, Simeon and Anna instantly recognize Jesus' importance. What do we know about Simeon? What do we know about Anna? Why do you think Luke thought it was important to include both of them in this encounter in his gospel?
5. Read Luke 2:28-32. Is there anything surprising about what Simeon claims? Imagine you were a First Century Jewish person sitting in the temple that day. How would you respond to Simeon's words?
6. Read Simeon's words to Mary in Luke 2:34-35. If you were Mary, how would you respond to what Simeon says?
7. Imagine the delight that Simeon and Anna found as they saw Jesus come into the temple. FINALLY, the time had come. FINALLY, the Messiah had come. How do you think their *waiting* effected their faith? When was a time in your life where you "waited on the Lord?"
8. Simeon and Anna leave a legacy of patience and hope. Have you thought much about your own legacy? What can a person do to build a strong legacy? Why is it important to think about our own personal legacies?

Prayer:

Pray for those suffering from the flu, or other illnesses and are unable to join us in church. Pray for those affected by the weather on the East Coast.

Leader notes:

We will have a book available shortly for further group discussions and diving into during the Lenten season.