

Lesson #11

Topic: The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple

Lesson Plan

Grade Level: 5th & 6th (Ages 11-12)

Lesson Duration: 45-60 minutes

Lesson Objective:

Students will learn about the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, understand its meaning, and reflect on the faith of those who recognized Jesus as the Savior.

1. Opening Prayer (2–3 min)

- Begin with a prayer asking God to help us understand the story of His Son and follow Him with faith and love.

2. Introduction: What is the Feast of the Presentation? (5 min)

- Explain that this feast, also called **The Meeting of the Lord**, is celebrated 40 days after Christmas.
- It commemorates when Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to fulfill the Law of Moses.

3. The Story (10–12 min) *Please refer to the attached story

- Tell the story in a child-friendly way:
 - Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple.
 - **Simeon**, a righteous man, had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would see the Messiah before he died.
 - When he saw Jesus, he took Him in his arms and praised God, saying that Jesus is the light for the nations.
 - **Anna**, a prophetess, also saw Jesus and thanked God, speaking about Him to everyone who was waiting for the Savior.
- Key points:
 1. The presentation shows Jesus' obedience to God's Law.

2. Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as the promised Savior.
3. The feast reminds us that Jesus came for all people and is the light of the world.

4. Reflection / Discussion (5–7 min)

- Ask questions:
 - *Why do you think Simeon and Anna were so happy to see Jesus?*
 - *How can we recognize Jesus in our daily lives?*
 - *What can we learn from their faith and patience?*

5. Activity Ideas (5–7 min)

1. **Draw the Scene:** Students draw Simeon holding Jesus in the Temple.
2. **Fill in the Blanks:** "Simeon was promised by the _____ that he would see the _____ before he died."
3. **Discussion Prompt:** Write or share one way we can be patient and faithful like Simeon and Anna.
4. **Timeline Activity:** Place Christmas → Presentation → Other key events of Jesus' life in order.

6. Closing Prayer (2–3 min)

- Thank God for sending Jesus, the Light of the World.
- Ask for help to recognize and follow Jesus in our lives with faith like Simeon and Anna.

The Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple

Forty days after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph brought Him to the Temple in Jerusalem. This was part of the Jewish law at the time: a new mother would come with her baby to thank God and present a sacrifice. Although the Virgin Mary was pure and holy, she humbly obeyed this law.

In Jerusalem lived an old man named Simeon. God had promised him that he would not die before he saw the Savior. On the very day Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple, the Holy Spirit led Simeon there. When he saw the child, he knew immediately that this was the promised Messiah. He took Jesus in his arms and prayed: „Now, Lord, let Your servant go in peace, for my eyes have seen Your salvation, a light for all nations and the glory of Israel. “

Simeon also addressed Mary, saying that Jesus would bring salvation but also suffering, and that her own soul would one day be pierced with sorrow.

There was also a holy woman there, **Anna the Prophetess**, who was very old. She prayed in the temple every day. When she saw Jesus, she gave thanks to God and told everyone about the Child who would save His people.

This feast is called the **Presentation of the Lord** or the **Meeting of the Lord** because it celebrates the moment when the Savior was first brought into the Temple and met by Simeon and Anna. It is one of the oldest feasts of the Church, reminding us that Christ is the true Light who came for all people.

WORKSHEET: THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE

Scripture Fill-in-the-Blank

Complete Simeon's prayer:

"Now, Lord, let Your servant go in _____, for my eyes have seen Your _____, a light for the _____ and the glory of _____."

Character Match

Match the person with their description:

- Simeon
- Anna
- Mary and Joseph

Brought Jesus to the Temple in humility

Prophetess who prayed in the Temple every day

The old man promised he would see the Savior before he died

Reflection Prompt

Why do you think Simeon and Anna were so happy to see Jesus? How can we also “meet” Christ in our lives today? Write 3–4 sentences.

Creative Activity

Draw a picture of Simeon holding the Christ Child in the Temple. Add Mary, Joseph, and Anna to the image as well.



WORKSHEET



Creative Activity



Draw a picture of Simeon holding the Christ Child in the Temple. Add Mary, Joseph, and Anna to the image as well.