



TALK IT OVER

Unedited

BOTTOM LINE

Make a decision based on who Jesus claims to be.

CONVERSATION STARTER

What's your favorite Christmas movie or story? Favorite character in the story?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointeorg/daily
- [Simeon: Waiting for Jesus](#) – a short blog

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." Luke 2:28-35 NIV

Without faith it is impossible to please God. Hebrews 11:6 NIV

"The story is not about a baby—it's about the King."

"Faith is believing that God is who He says He is and will do what He says He will do."

"If you leave part of the story out, it ceases to be the story."

– Dwight Mason

TALK IT OVER

Every one of us must decide about Jesus. What or who do you believe are the most common factors influencing that decision? If you leave out part of the story, you don't have the real story. What is easy to leave out in the story of Jesus? Why? God's promises are received by faith, but not blind faith. God gave Mary and us evidence to build on. What evidence has God given you for your faith? We are born worshippers. Discuss. Jesus didn't come just for us to believe—we must worship and follow. What are the significant differences? Simeon's prophecy draws a line in the sand and is the part of the story most frequently left out. He essentially said Jesus cannot be ignored—He is the Lord and King. He is the most accepting and demanding person ever. Explain and discuss. The real story demands a decision. How has His coming "revealed your thoughts?"

ACTION STEPS (This or one of your own)

With gratitude I believe in the Baby who was born at Christmas, and I surrender to the Lord Jesus as my King. I will trust and obey Him in every way, including this area where I have struggled: _____

My Action Step: _____