



Series Divine Intervention

Passage Luke 2:21-35

Title The Price Tag of Christmas

Speaker: Pastor David Menard 12/24/2017

- **Discussion Starter:** In what way did the message cause you to reflect on how much God loves us? How is God's knowledge, love and ability demonstrated in the Christmas story?

Symbols of the Abrahamic Covenant (Luke 2:21-24; Galatians 5:6; Leviticus 12:1-8)

- What is the meaning or symbolism of the circumcision which was to be performed on the eighth day? Read Galatians 5:6. Why do you think that circumcision is no longer required for Christians today?
- In addition to being circumcised on the eighth day, the law of Moses required a purification process to be done prior to dedicating a child in the temple. Read Leviticus 12:1-8. Discuss how this process applied to Mary and the baby Jesus?
- What is the significance of the offerings required and what do they reveal?
- Why do you think that the length of time for purification of a female baby was twice as long and a male baby?

Simeon – God Hears (Luke 2:25-33; Romans 12:1-2)

- Simeon's name means God Hears. Read Luke 2:25-27 and Romans 12:1-2. Describe how the character and actions of Simeon compare and contrast to how we are called to live as Christians today.
- According to Luke 2:30-31, Simeon reveals two truths about salvation. What are these two truths, and how should they impact our lives as Christians today?
- In Luke 2:32, Simeon continues with a statement saying: "A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles." Read Isaiah 9:2, Isaiah 42:16 and John 8:12. Discuss how these verses give us additional insights on how the gift of salvation brings us revelation?

Simeon's Prophecy of Jesus (Luke 2:34-35; Isaiah 8:14-15; 1 Peter 2:6-8)

- According to Luke 2:34, Jesus would cause the rise and fall of many. Read Isaiah 8:14-15 and 1 Peter 2:6-8. What additional insights are revealed in these verses as to the reason why many in Israel would fall?
- What was the sign Simeon is referring to in Luke 2:34-35, and how would this reveal the thoughts of hearts of many in Israel? Describe in your own words what this meant for Israel? What should the thought of our hearts reveal about us today?