



## Simeon's Song of Freedom (Nunc Dimittis)

### Key idea:

Simeon is a model of our journey through Advent as he waits, is led by the Spirit, receives Jesus, and then finds true freedom and unshakeable peace, knowing that to have Jesus is to have everything.

### Key text:

Luke 2:25-32

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

29 "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss[a] your servant in peace.

30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel."

### Key points:

1. Simeon was waiting and longing to see the Christ, led by the Holy Spirit.
2. Simeon recognized and received Jesus, even though He came as a baby.
3. Simeon's song is about true freedom and peace found in Christ.
4. Our Advent journey, like Simeon's, should lead us to embrace Jesus and find unshakable peace in Him.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The sermon mentions three things Simeon was doing before he uttered his song. What were they, and how can we incorporate these practices into our own spiritual lives?
2. Simeon recognized Jesus as the Messiah when He was just a baby. How can we cultivate spiritual sensitivity to recognize God's work in unexpected ways?
3. The pastor said, "God so often starts with that, you know, Jesus later on will grow up and tell the parables. The kingdom of God starts as just a little seed, and it eventually will grow." How have you seen this principle at work in your own life or in the world around you?
4. Simeon's song expresses readiness to depart this life because he has seen God's salvation. How does this perspective challenge or encourage your view of life and death?
5. The sermon emphasizes that true freedom comes from being at peace with God through Jesus. What areas of your life do you need to surrender to experience this freedom more fully?
6. How does the idea that "nothing can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus" impact your daily life and decisions?

### **Practical Applications:**

1. This week, practice daily moments of quiet reflection, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to you in fresh ways.
2. Identify one area of your life where you need to trust God more fully. Write it down and pray about it throughout the week.
3. Share the "light" of Christ with someone this week by performing an act of kindness or sharing your faith story.
4. Before going to sleep each night this week, pray Simeon's words: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace."