

how to use it as a launch pad for your engagement with children and families, please use this link: <https://urc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FACT-how-to-sheet.pdf>

Luke 2: 25-33– Simeon recognises Jesus

Theme: Don't lose the extraordinary in all the ordinary

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Introduction: What would be helpful to know in my planning?

The book of Luke was written around 60 AC by Luke, the doctor who became a disciple of Jesus. Luke wanted to show that Jesus was God's son, who came to the world for everyone, Jew, Gentile, rich, poor, an extraordinary Saviour for the ordinary everyday people.

This passage tells of the visit of Mary and Joseph to the temple when Jesus was six weeks old. It was Jewish law to "purify" the mother after childbirth as they were ritually "unclean" after giving birth. It may be wise not to be distracted from the main theme with children, however do not avoid answering their questions if they ask and you may wish to have an answer ready.

We have focused here on the story of Simeon – the story of Anna will be used at another time, though you may wish to mention it. Both Simeon and Anna had been waiting for a long time for the promised Messiah – in contrast, we don't have to wait as Jesus is here with us always, we just have to recognize him.



You may wish to think about what help you believe Simeon was waiting for for Israel in case this question is asked by the children. See <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke%204%3A13&version=ESV>

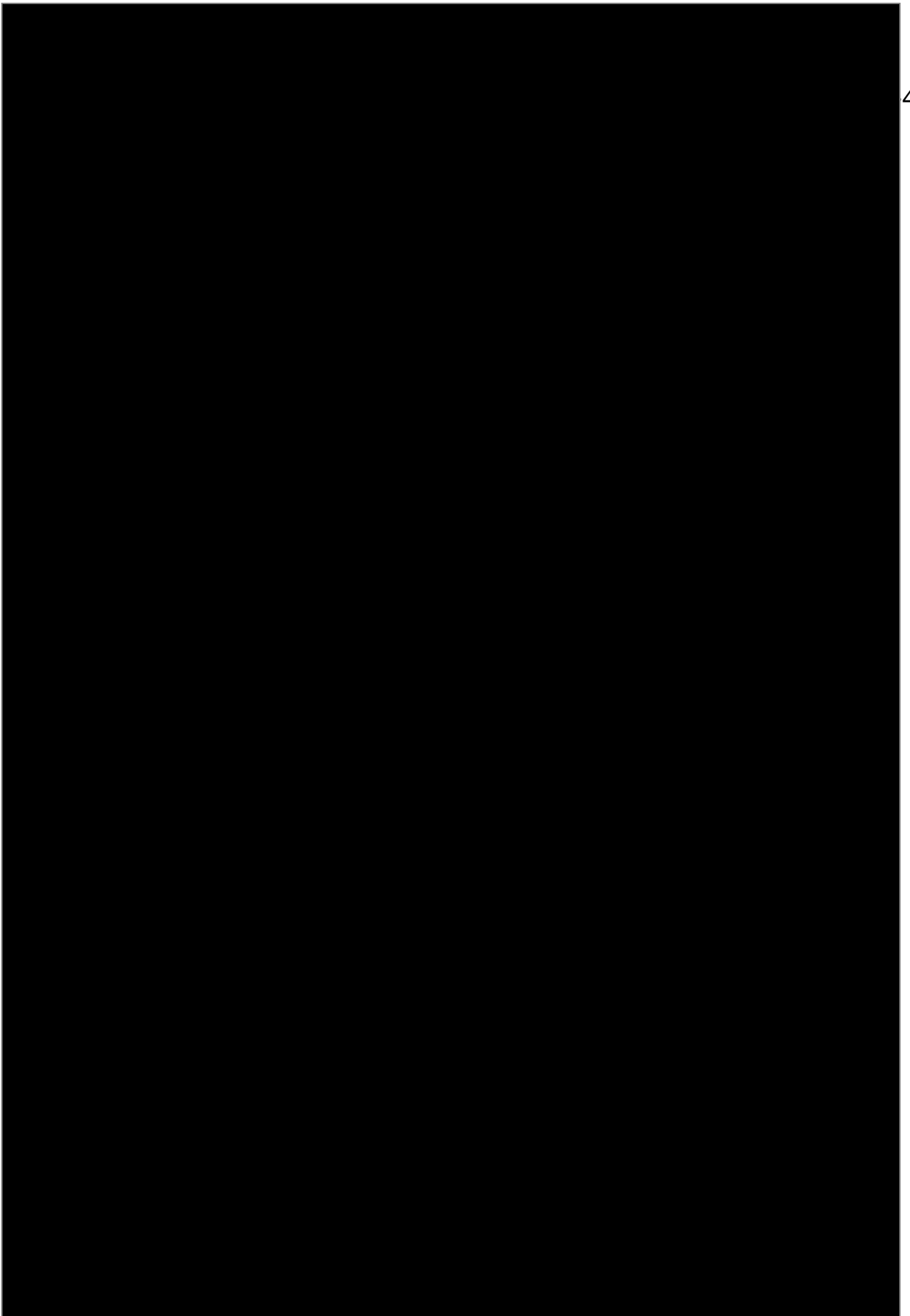
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What you do:

Fold the two sheets of card in half and make a firm crease.

Cut around the edge of one of the cards to make it slightly smaller - this will be the inside of the card. On the inside card, make a cut in the card about 4cm deep, 6cm from each edge. This makes the section for the pop up surprise element of the card.

Open the card that you just cut, so you can see the slits. Use your fingers to gently push the tab section up towards you. Run your fingers along the fold of the card so that it's firmly creased. Crease the tab section in the opposite direction so it pops out and away from the card.

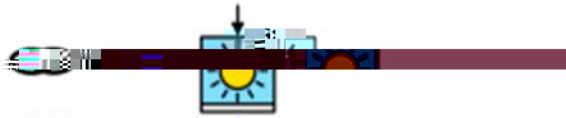
Glue the inside card to the outer card, making sure the pop up section does not get glued down. Decorate the pop up with your surprise message. Decorate the front of the card with pictures or stickers. Remember not to give any clue about the message inside so that the card is a surprise when it is opened.

Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with



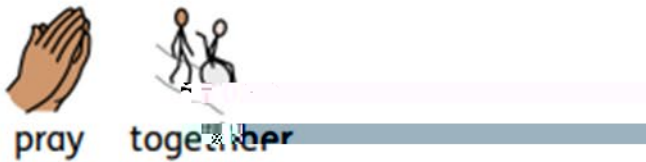
Jesus our friend



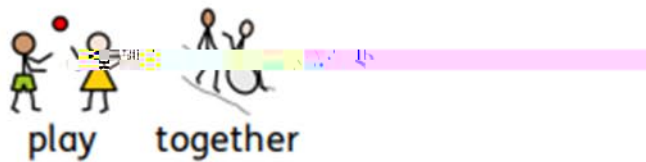
be with us today



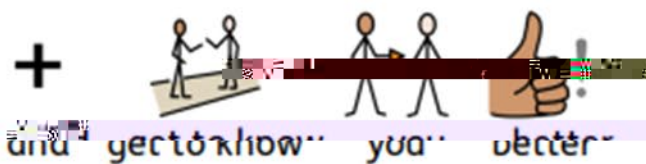
as we share together



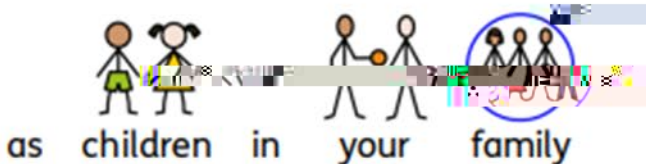
pray together



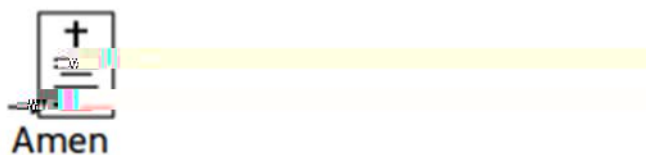
play together



and get to know you better



as children in your family



Amen

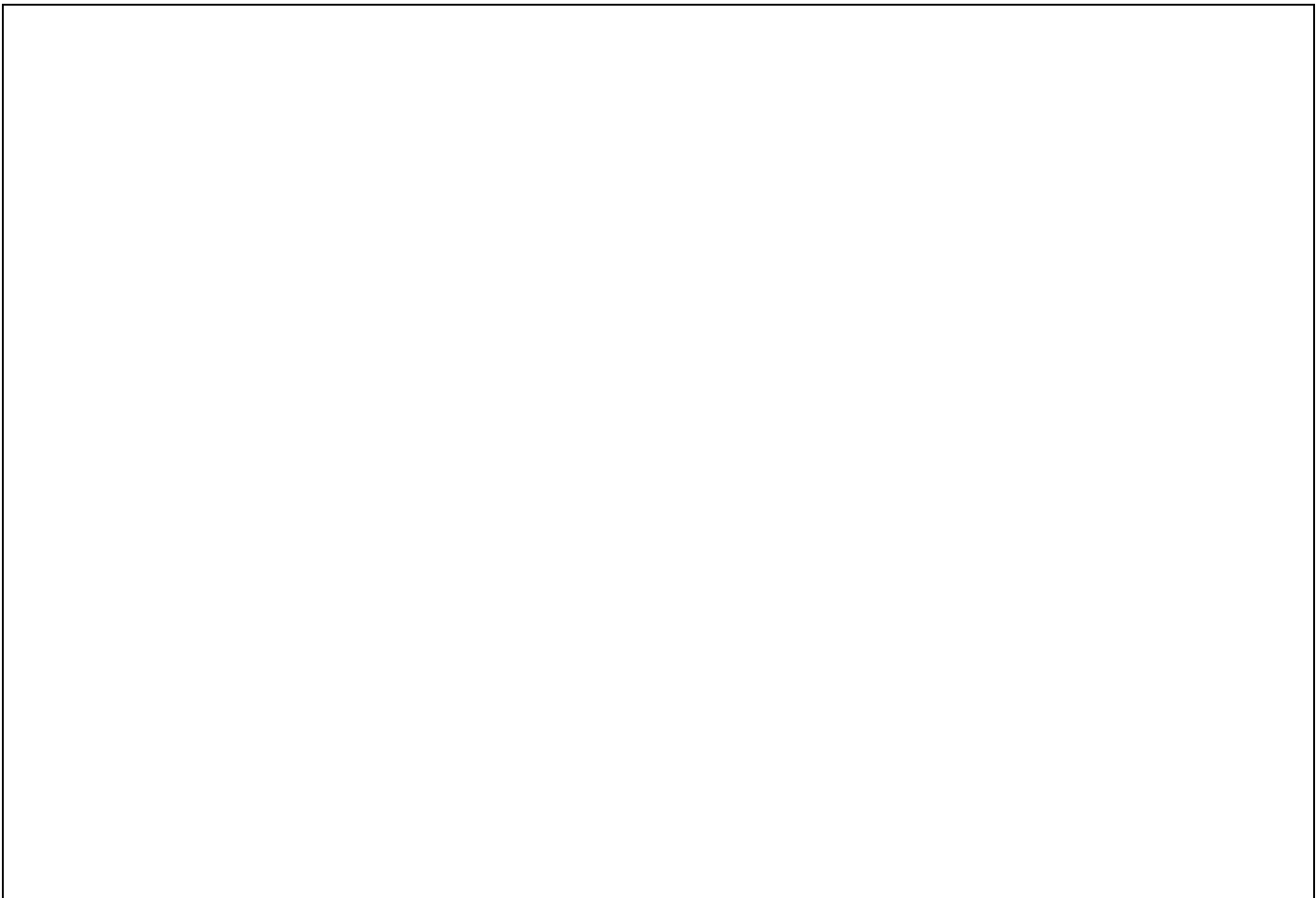


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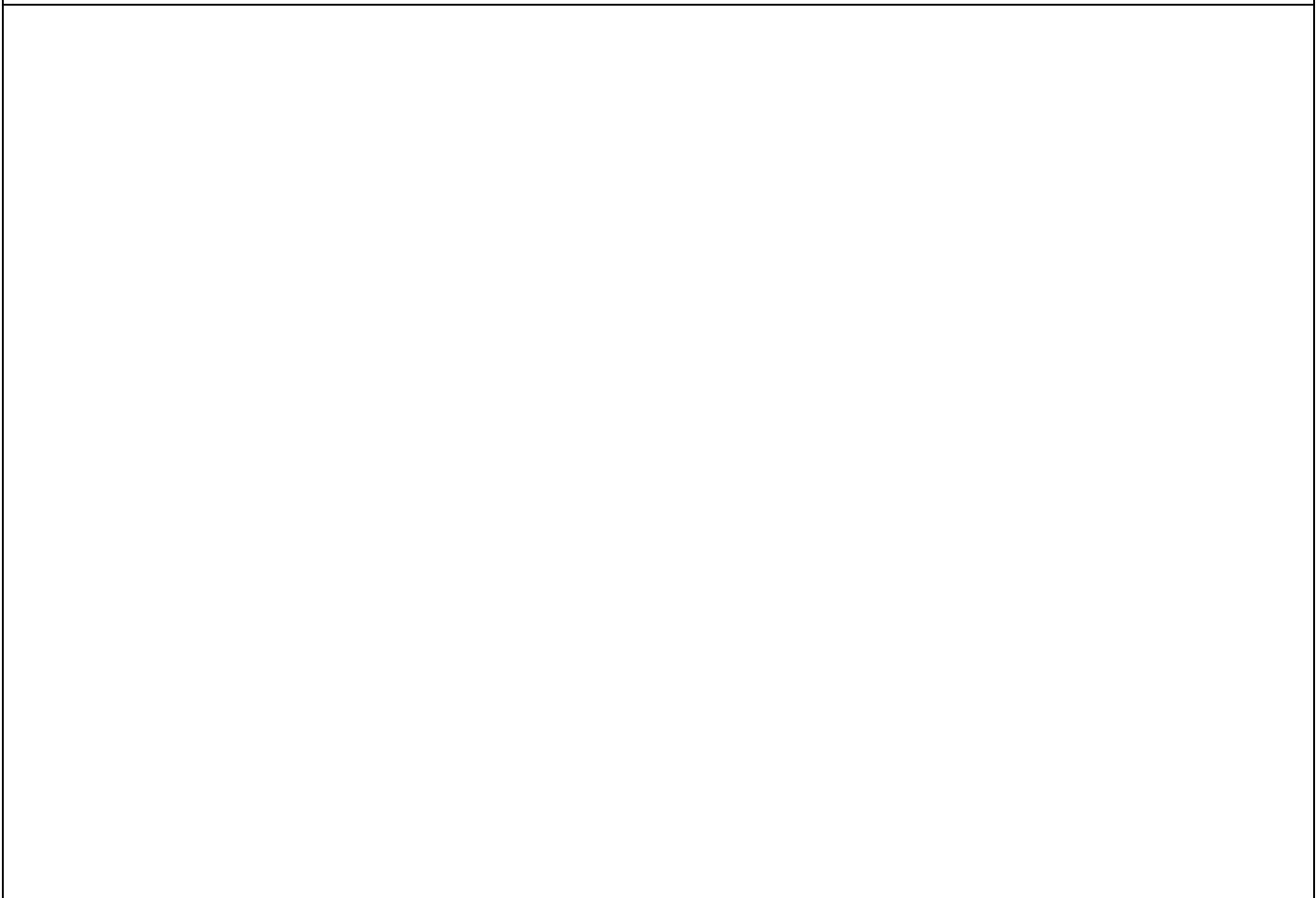




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