Luke's Gospel – An Inclusive Savior
Lesson Three

Introduction: Why is Jesus considered an Inclusive Savior or the Savior of the *least*, too?
a. Jesus was a Jew
b. Jesus was a poor Jew - Lk.2:23-24 & Lev.12:6-8
c. Jesus was a member of a minority group in the midst of a larger and more controlling group

[Luke 2:25-38].....Simeon and Anna

vs. 25 Simeon was awaiting the *consolation* of Israel - Simeon knew and accepted the evil and religious impurity of Israel
The Holy Spirit was upon Simeon (how's that?)
vs. 26-27 He lived each day in anticipation(hope) of God's promise
vs. 29-32 Simeon praises God for Jesus and speaks prophetically over him
Simeon recognizes the role of the Gentiles - Isaiah 49:6
vs. 33 Again, parents *amazed*
vs. 34-35 Luke (through Simeon) introduces the purpose of Jesus' life including the worst death a parent could ever suffer - death of a child
vs. 36-38 Anna confirms Simeon's prophecy
vs. 37 - she could be 84 yrs. old or have been a widow for 84 years
"redemption" of *Jerusalem*" instead of *Israel* - Why?

NOTE: "These two aged saints are Israel in miniature, and Israel at its best: devout, obedient, constant in prayer, led by the Holy Spirit, at home in the temple, longing and hoping for the fulfillment of God's promises. And they, like Zechariah and Elizabeth, are old, ready to move offstage, to 'depart in peace.' God is doing something new, but it is not really new, because hope is always joined to memory, and the new is God's keeping an old promise...Anna and Simeon are a portrait of the Israel that accepted Jesus." - Dr. Fred Craddock, *Interpretation: Luke*

[Luke 2: 41-52].....Jesus, a Disobedient Child?

vs. 41 Feast of Passover - the big event in Jerusalem(like State Fair of Texas)
vs. 44 There were plenty of people there from all over the world
vs. 45-47 Jesus and the teachers (Jesus' understanding was probably better than that of the teachers when they were his age and perhaps somewhat older)
Where did Jesus get this knowledge?
vs. 48 Mary scolds Jesus
vs. 49 Perhaps Jesus response is a direct reflection on how much Mary and Joseph did not pay attention to or understand the multiple messages about Jesus (angels, shepherds, Elizabeth, Simeon, and Anna)