

Wonder of Christmas Series

Episode III - Expectant

“The birth of Christ is the central event in the history of the earth — the very thing the whole story has been about.”

-C.S. Lewis

Episode I: The Wonder of _____ and _____

Episode II: The Wonder of the _____

“At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named **Simeon**. He was righteous and devout and was **eagerly waiting** for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him.” **Luke 2:25** (NLT)

“That day the **Spirit led** him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, ²⁸Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹“Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. ³⁰**I have seen your salvation,**” **Luke 2:27-30** (NLT)

“It had been **revealed** to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had **seen the Lord’s Messiah.**”

Luke 2:26

- **Prosdechomai**

- Dechomai: “to wait.” + Pros: “forward.”

- **Waiting** _____

“Simeon was _____. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹“Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, **as you have promised.**” **Luke 2:28-29** (NLT)

- _____: the man who knew how to wait for the arrival of Christ. The way he waited for the first coming is a model for how we should wait for the Second Coming.

- _____ **waiting, eagerly watching.**

Waiting forward.

“**Anna**, a prophet, was also there in the Temple... and she was very old. Her husband died when they had been married only seven years. ³⁷Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She **never left** the Temple but **stayed there** day and night, **worshiping** God with **fasting** and **prayer**.

³⁸She **came along** just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she began praising God. She talked about the child to everyone who had been **waiting** _____ for God to rescue Jerusalem.” **Luke 2:36-38** (NLT)

- Anna was a witness to the Salvation she had prayed for.

Our Mission:

To love _____ and love _____ while leading them to become fully devoted followers of Jesus.

“**I have seen your salvation,** ³¹which you have prepared **for all people.** ³²He is a light to **reveal God** to the nations, and He is the **glory** of your people Israel!” **Luke 2:30-32** (NLT)

- Simeon was looking for the Wonder of Christmas. He was looking for Jesus. He was _____ Jesus.

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Episode I: The Wonder of Mary and Joseph

Episode II: The Wonder of the Shepherds

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- **Waiting Forwardly**

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- **Simeon:** the man who knew how to wait for the arrival of Christ. The way he waited for the first coming is a model for how we should wait for the Second Coming.

- **Expectantly waiting, eagerly watching. Waiting forward.**

“**Anna**, a prophet, was also there in the Temple... and she was very old. Her husband died when they had been married only seven years. ³⁷Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She **never left** the Temple but **stayed there** day and night, **worshiping** God with **fasting** and **prayer**.

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- Simeon was looking for the Wonder of Christmas. He was looking for Jesus. He was expecting Jesus.