

## Christmas: Anna and Simeon

Have you ever waited for something with great anticipation? Did it seem like the anticipated day would never arrive? Did time seem to crawl? The Israelites had expectantly awaited the arrival of the Messiah for a long time. Isaiah had prophesied centuries before that a Messiah would come out of Israel. We celebrate the coming of the Messiah, Jesus, every year at Christmas. Anna and Simeon had embraced the promise of the Messiah throughout their long lives. God rewarded their faithful patience by allowing them to see the newborn child who would be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles and glory to Your people Israel.” It is important to remember that while sometimes we won’t see the result of our faith, we must remember God is faithful to keep His promises.

Around Christmas time, children can easily identify with the anticipation Anna and Simeon experienced. Christmas is a time of cheer and giving. Christian parents can lead their children to recognize that the greatest gift is Jesus.

**Main Passage** Luke 2:21-40

**Memory Verse** Matthew 4:8

Blessed are the pure in heart, because they will see God.

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