

Waiting for Whom?

INSTRUCTIONS: Find the color-coded, hidden letters and unscramble them to learn whom Simeon and Anna waited for.



BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple as a baby to obey God's law.
- Simeon and Anna waited a long time to meet the Messiah.
- Simeon and Anna worshiped Jesus as the Messiah.

KEY PASSAGE: John 1:1-2

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

- Is Jesus God or a human? As the Son of God, Jesus is both fully God and fully human.

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS:

- How did Simeon know who Jesus is?
- What did Anna do after meeting Jesus?
- How can we worship Jesus as the Messiah?

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

- Play a game with your kids to encourage and demonstrate patience. Offer them half a treat, explaining that they can have the full treat if they wait five minutes before eating the offered half. Discuss why waiting for Jesus would have been difficult but worth the wait.

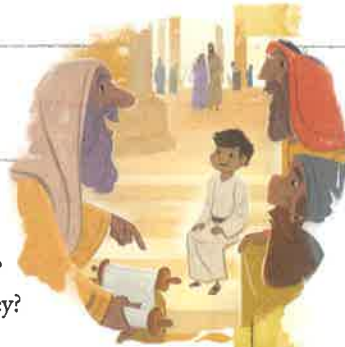


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Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?



FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- How do you worship King Jesus?
- Jesus focused on pleasing the Father. What can you do that is pleasing to God?
- How do you think God feels when He looks at you?

Jesus as a Child

Matthew 2; Luke 2

STORY POINT: EVEN AS A CHILD, JESUS WANTED TO DO HIS FATHER'S PLAN.

After Jesus was born, wise men followed a star to Bethlehem to find the new king of the Jews. The wise men worshiped Jesus as King. Mary, Joseph, and Jesus went back to Nazareth. Jesus grew up in Nazareth.

Every year, Jesus' parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover feast. When Jesus was 12 years old, Jesus and His family went to Jerusalem together. When it was time to go home, Mary and Joseph began traveling to Nazareth. They didn't notice that Jesus was not with them; they thought He was among the group of travelers. But Jesus had stayed behind.

Mary and Joseph had been walking for a whole day when they started to look for Jesus. They went back to Jerusalem. They searched everywhere for Jesus. Finally, they found Him at the temple. Jesus was listening to the teachers and asking them questions. Everyone who heard Jesus could hardly believe how much Jesus understood. When Jesus' parents saw Him, they were surprised. Mary said, "Son, why have You done this? Your father and I were worried. We've been looking everywhere for You."

"Why were you looking for Me?" Jesus asked. "Didn't you know that I had to be in My Father's house?" Then Jesus went back to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph. Jesus was always obedient to them. As Jesus grew up, He became even wiser. God was pleased with Him, and so was everyone who knew Him.

Christ Connection: God sent Jesus to earth with a purpose. Even as a child, Jesus wanted to honor God. God blessed Jesus as He got ready to follow His Father's plan: to die on the cross and rescue people from sin.



FOLD

List of Learning

List things you have learned how to do in each period of your life so far. Then list things you think you'll learn in the future.

Birth to Age 5

Age 6 to Age 10

Age 11 to Age 18

Age 19 to Age 30

Lost and Found

Help Mary and Joseph find their way back to Jesus. Follow the path containing the words of today's Bible story point.

