

After Jesus was born, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus traveled to Jerusalem. It was tradition for babies to be taken to the temple so that they could receive prayer and blessing. Once in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon and a woman named Anna. Simeon and Anna each had been waiting for the Savior for a very long time. God had spoken to Simeon and told him he would meet the Savior during his lifetime. Anna prayed and fasted regularly - that means she gave up eating certain foods for certain periods of time - because she knew that God would send a Savior one day. God led Simeon to the temple courtyard just as Jesus' parents brought Jesus in. Simeon took baby Jesus in his arms and praised God! He said, "God, you are King over all. This is what You have promised. My eyes have seen how You will save everyone." And when Anna saw Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus, she walked up to them and gave thanks to God. She told everyone there about Jesus and how God had kept a promise to the people. Their wait was over! Jesus was the one they had been waiting for!
THE BIG IDEA: Jesus is the one we've been waiting for. THE BIBLE: Simeon and Anna Welcome Jesus (Luke 2:22-40)

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { - What were Simeon and Anna waiting for? } \\
& \text { - How did they react when they saw Jesus at the temple? } \\
& \text { - How do you think Simeon and Anna knew that Jesus was } \\
& \text { the Savior? }
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## NOW WHAT?

After many many years of waiting, Jesus was born. God sent Jesus for you and me. Around the table, answer this question: What are some things you want to do in the new year to thank God for sending Jesus?

