

"A Gift Worth Receiving" Luke 2:21-33

Luke 2:21-33 (NIV)

On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

22When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), 24and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

25Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, 28Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

29" Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace.

30For my eyes have seen your salvation,

31which you have prepared in the sight of all people,

32a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

33The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

Jesus and his parents went to the temple to participate in three traditional Jewish ceremonies:

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.

How do we find this gift of Christmas?

1. Those who _____ will _____. v. 25

Lessons on looking:

- A. Look through the eyes of _____, not the eyes of _____.
- B. Keep looking even when _____.

2. The _____ comes before the _____. v. 26

3. We must come to the _____ to find him. v. 27

The Church exists...

- A. For the _____. It's a _____ center.
- B. For the _____. It's a _____ center.
- C. For the _____. It's a _____ center.

4. We need to personally _____ Jesus. v. 28

5. Then we'll be ready to _____. v. 29