

## **THRIVING AMIDST CHRISTMAS CRAZINESS**

"The Wonder on the Other side of Waiting" – Luke 2:21-40 (NLT)

### **I. Living Faithfully - A Lesson in Parenting Effectively**

Eight days later, when the baby was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel even before he was conceived. Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. The law of the Lord says, "If a woman's first child is a boy, he must be dedicated to the LORD." So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord—"either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." Luke 2:21-24 (NLT)

### **II. Living Expectantly - A Lesson in Wondrous Waiting**

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 and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Luke 2:25-26 (NLT)

- Looking at Simeon
- "Wondrous Waiting"

Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him. As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul." Luke 2:34-35 (NLT)

- Proclaiming Jesus' Ministry
- Preparing Mary's Heart

### **III. Living Intimately - A Lesson in Relating with God**

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, Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!" Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. Luke 2:27-33 (NLT)

- Spirit- led
- Spirit fed (Staying Vitally Connected to God: 1) Prayer 2) Worship 3) Word 4) Fasting)

### **IV. Living Obediently - A Lesson in Finishing Well**

[Simeon] took the child in his arms and praised God, saying, "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised. I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared for all people. Luke 2:29-31 *sel* (NLT)

- Holding onto Jesus
- Sharing about Jesus
- Resting in Jesus