

December 21, 2022

[Luke 2:21-35](#)

The theme that stands out most to me in this passage is waiting, specifically for God's promise. Mary, Joseph, and Simeon wait with obedience until the Lord calls them for their purpose. Mary and Joseph waited in Bethlehem for 40 days (for the circumcision and Mary's ceremonial recovery from birth) before they were called to travel to the temple to offer their sacrifice on behalf of Jesus. Simeon waited expectantly and with devotion to meet the Messiah. God's timing and provision for his people is perfect. The Lord promises and we wait.

I'd like to say I wait patiently and with hope but too often I wonder what's taking God so long to fulfill a promise or a prayer and often question why I'm waiting and for what reason. Even when we wait, the Holy Spirit moves in us and God works on our behalf to fulfill his promises. Can you imagine how Mary felt after hearing Simeon's words about Jesus? Both immense joy and marvel and then I would imagine extreme anxiety and fear knowing "a sword will pierce your own soul too." Yet, we know in Mary's story God fulfilled his promise and delivered to us a Savior.

How will you wait this advent season? Do you believe God is at work in the waiting?

Lord, help me trust you while I wait. I pray for a heart of devotion, like Simeon, that will allow me to abide in your will and trust in your plan and promise. Help me to remember that your timing is perfect and that your will is always done. Thank you for your sovereignty and for our Savior. Be our guiding light this season and reveal to use your immense glory. Amen.

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