

Sunday 29th January 2023

“Presentation of Christ at the Temple”

**\*\*\* This week's homegroup questions are shorter than normal (hooray I hear you say!) as I invite you to take more space to think and pray through issues members of the group might be facing \*\*\***

This morning we took a brief break from our sermon series on Nehemiah to focus on the account in Luke's Gospel (2:22-40) of the 1 month old Jesus being presented by Mary and Joseph at the Temple, in accordance with the Law of Moses (*take a look at Exodus 13:2 & 12 for more...*).

Simeon had been *“waiting for the consolation of Israel..... It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah”*

1. As I spoke this morning about the need to wait for God's timing, I was deeply struck by a sense that there were a good number of people at St. Luke's that were in this exact position. I felt that God was wanting to encourage people to wait, in faith, for His timing. Spend some time as a group sharing what you might be waiting for and why you feel it is right to wait. If you have grown tired of waiting, share your frustrations. After this spend some time praying and encouraging those members of your group.
2. As an encouragement to others, can you think of an occasion when you had to wait for God's timing for something to happen and then, at the right time, it did happen? Spend some time sharing those stories and thanking God for His love and goodness.
3. Anna's response to seeing Jesus was to then go and tell others about Him.
4. Why did she respond in this way?
5. How do we respond when we've seen God move in some way or received an answer to prayer?