

## MESSAGE NOTES

# ANTICIPATION

JOY IN THE WAITING

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Luke 2:25-38, p.716

### ANTICIPATION REQUIRES LONG TERM FAITHFULNESS

**Anticipation is all over the Christmas story. What do you have to anticipate as a follower of Jesus Christ?**

1. I am to anticipate that God will keep His promises (25-29, 36-38).
2. I am to anticipate that the Savior alone will rescue (25, 28-29, 38).
  - a. Jesus alone is fit
  - b. Jesus alone can pay
3. I am to anticipate that the mission will be difficult (34-35).
4. I am to anticipate that the mission will be accomplished (30-32, 38).
5. I am to anticipate opportunities to speak about Him (29-32, 38).

#### the one thing:

Anticipate the day, each day!

*Miss something? All of these sermon notes will be available online Monday.*

## TAKING IT HOME NOTES FOR SMALL GROUP & PERSONAL STUDY

- 1 **KEEPING IT REAL**  
God speaks to people in numerous ways within the Christmas story—through angels, prophecies and Scripture, for example. Discuss ways in which the Lord speaks to us today.
- 2 **LOOK AT THE BOOK**  
Simeon proclaimed he saw Messiah according to the Lord's word (Luke 2:29). "Word," in this case, is translated from the Greek term *rhema*, which denotes an utterance from the Lord for a specific place, time and purpose. How are we to know when we have received a *rhema* word?
- 3 Simeon apparently waited a long time to see Messiah. Abraham, father of the faithful, waited 25 years for Sarah to give birth to Isaac. We sometimes wait years to have our prayers answered. Discuss how we are to respond when the Lord's timing is different than ours.
- 4 **THE NEXT STEP**  
Identify a situation which presents a great spiritual challenge—perhaps an unsaved loved one, a broken relationship or a physical need—and recommit it to prayer and the Lord's faithfulness.

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## NEXT STEPS

- Memorize Titus 2:11-13 & live a life of anticipation.
- Ask God to open doors for you to share what you have to anticipate!
- Sign up for the *Community Bible Experience*.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

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CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES AT 10:30, 4 & 6 PM	24
CHRISTMAS DAY (NO SERVICES)	25
CHRISTMAS RECESS (OFFICE CLOSED)	26-30

### JANUARY

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FAMILY SUNDAY (ONE 9 AM SERVICE)	1
NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY (OFFICE CLOSED)	2
CATALYST ALL SMALL GROUP LEADERS' TRAINING	4
DISTRICTS YOUTH CONFERENCE	6-8
BOOKS FOR JOBS BOOK & MEDIA DRIVE	8-27
WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNITY TRIMESTER 2 BEGINS	11
PARENT SUMMIT WITH GREG SPECK	14
WAYPOINT: BASICS	15