

Resources

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Luke 2:36-40

36 And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, 37 and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. 38 And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. 39 And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Sermon Outline:

I. The Introduction of Anna (36-37)II. The Praise and Witness of Anna (38)III. The Family's Return to Nazareth (39-40)

Life Group Leader Notes:





•In a culture that marginalized women, Luke, the gospel-writer, elevated and esteemed them because Jesus did. How is this relevant for our world today? Why is it important that we value women in ministry?

•Anna was called a prophetess and spent her time fasting and praying. In her aged years she dedicated her life to serve the Lord. Does Anna remind you of any senior saints in your life? How does their faith help reshape your view about what you will do when you are older?

•What makes fasting and prayer a service to God? How do they help us keep our lives focused on eternity?

•Anna gave thanks to God and spoke about Him to those who were waiting for redemption. We are now living after redemption has come through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is something we can thank God for! Who in your life is still waiting for redemption? Who can you actively pray for or fast on behalf of this week? Consider a plan to speak to that person this week.

•Pastor Scott talked about Jesus' nature by saying, "...He was 100% God and 100% man - two natures in one undivided person. He wasn't God wrapped in flesh - he was a man filled with all the fullness of deity - fully man, fully God." Why is this crucial to our understanding about Jesus?

