

Know that Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple.
Reflect on what this means for us.



The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews and when Jesus was just forty days old, they travelled to the Temple in Jerusalem to present him to God as the Jewish law stated:

“Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord” (Lk. 2:23).

There was an old man named Simeon in the Temple. He was very close to God. God had made Simeon a promise that, before he died, he would see the Messiah, the Chosen One, sent by God to be a Saviour to His people.

Many people came and went every day in the great Temple but, when Mary and Joseph entered carrying their small baby, Simeon knew that they were special. This was what he had longed to see all his life.



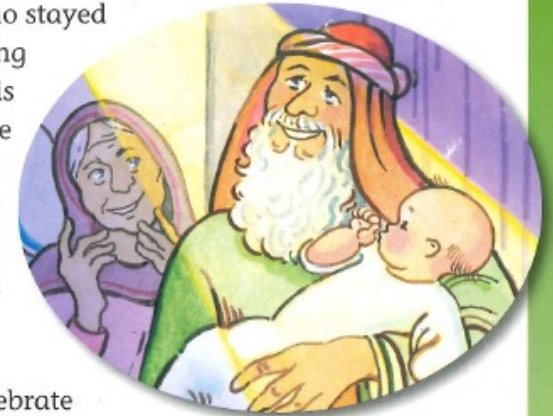
Simeon took Jesus into his arms; blessed him and praised God for him. He knew that Jesus would grow up to be a **‘light’** for all the people in the world. He was the long awaited Messiah. This is the prayer Simeon said,

“Lord, now let your servant depart in peace according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples, a light for the nations and the glory of your people Israel” (Lk. 2:29-32).

Simeon knew he had seen the Messiah. God had kept His promise.

Anna sees Jesus

Anna was a very elderly woman who stayed in the Temple day and night, praising God. She immediately knew that this baby was the child the Jewish people had been promised. Their long wait was over. Anna gave thanks to God for letting her see the Messiah. She told everyone she met that God had remembered His promise to them.



Every year, on February 2nd, we celebrate ‘The Presentation of the Lord’. We remember Simeon thanking God for Jesus, the ‘Light of the World’.

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Retell a narrative that is accurate in its sequence and details and corresponds to the scripture source used.

Activity set on Purple Mash

Rewrite the story of the Presentation of Jesus at the temple. Make sure you include as many details as you can remember.

Why were they taking Jesus and where?

Think about Simeon's feelings and what God had promised him. What did he say about Jesus that we still think of today? Who was Anna? How would Mary and Joseph have felt?

'I can die in peace now that I have seen the chosen one.' Simeon

