

MINING THE MESSAGE

TITLE: WAITING: The Unexpected Gift

SCRIPTURE: Luke 2:21-38

SPEAKER: Jeff Terrell

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BIG IDEA:

Waiting: It is a process we do not enjoy, but it often delivers the most unexpected gifts!

OUTLINE:

1. Obedience...Still Poor... Gifted with More Facts (21-24)
2. Faithfulness...Still Subject...Gifted with Fulfilled Promise (25-35)
3. Patience...Still Single...Gifted with Unparalleled Hope (36-38)

WHAT DID YOU LEARN?

- 1 What is the difference between faithfulness and obedience? What do believers need to do in order to have continual faithfulness and not just periodic obedience?
- 2 Reflect on the character and attributes of Anna. How did Anna demonstrate her patience to God? What makes our circumstances a gift and not a burden?

HOW WILL YOU APPLY IT?

- 1 Faith is not hoping your circumstances will change, but is a hope that God will be true to His character. Instead of circumstantial changes, how could you shift your faith to God?
- 2 God desires our worship, which is being Christ above all things. What desires and behaviors do you need to change in order to demonstrate worship to Him?

LIVE IT OUT

Do an inventory of your spiritual walk this year. Worship God by giving thanks for one of His attributes that you discovered this year. Rejoice in one area where you have grown in your spiritual life. Focus on one area where you think God wants you to grow.

READ AHEAD

Read Matthew 1:21-23. What strikes you about this prophecy of Jesus?

