

**BEST.**  
*Christmas.*  
**EVER.**

# IT IS BETTER TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE

**Luke 2:22-40**

- **G = Give Praise In The Midst Of Problems**
- **I = Invest In Others When The Opportunity Comes**
- **V = Value Faith Over Sight**
- **E = Elevate Everyone You Encounter**

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**LIVE CONFIDENTLY**  
**LIVE INTO WHAT YOU DON'T YET SEE**

**Simeon:** Had a promise from God and was waiting

**Anna:** Was waiting in the Temple for the Messiah

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**LIVE EXPECTANTLY:**  
**LIVE WITH PATIENT EXPECTATION: SOON!**

**Simeon:** Not told how long he waited for the promise to be fulfilled

**Anna:** Waited for between 50 and 60 YEARS

**Galatians 6:9** “*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*”

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# A LONG OBEDIENCE IN THE SAME DIRECTION **EUGENE PETERSON**

*There is a great market for religious experience in our world; there is little enthusiasm for the patient acquisition of virtue, little inclination to sign up for a long apprenticeship in what earlier generations of Christians called holiness. Religion in our time has been captured by the tourist mindset. Religion is understood as a visit to an attractive site to be made when we have adequate leisure.*

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# **LIVE SPIRITUALLY: WALK IN AND BY THE SPIRIT**

## **Simeon**

- Holy Spirit was ON him
- Holy Spirit REVEALED something to him
- Holy Spirit MOVED him to the temple

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**Gal 5:25 “If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”**

- **Keep short accounts with God**
- **Listen to God: Be in His word, worship and service**
- **Be obedient to God: When He speaks, obey**

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# **LIVE OBEDIENTLY** **DO WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DIRECTS**

When Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus into the Temple  
Simeon and Anna were WHERE they needed to be, WHEN they  
needed to be there, WALKING the way they needed to walk and  
were in touch with and in tune with the Holy Spirit.

When God moved they were READY!

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# TODAY:

- Pray to accept Christ
- Obey what Spirit is directing
- Use the connection to take your next step

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