



Station 0 Signs



Waiting...

Advent is the season of waiting...

The season of preparation...

The season of already...**but NOT YET!**



We are preparing the manger,
but the baby isn't here yet.



The season of Advent is traditionally the
four weeks prior to Christmas

It's a season of preparation...

Getting our hearts and minds ready for the coming of the
king.

It's the season of celebrating the coming of the king and
the

expecting the return of the king...

Jesus coming again.



What are you waiting for today?

What hopes, dreams, plans, prayers have you been
waiting for, longing for,

Waiting for to be fulfilled?

Are you willing to WAIT for them?

Are you willing to WAIT for GOD?

Talk to God about this today and allow God to talk to you.

LISTEN...OPEN UP...be willing!



Are you willing to

WAIT for JESUS?

What will it take for
you to WAIT on him?



Psalm 27:14

14 Wait for the LORD; be strong and
take heart and wait for the LORD.



Psalm 40:1-3

1 I waited patiently for the LORD;
he turned to me and heard my cry.
2 He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.
3 He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.

Many will see and fear the LORD
and put their trust in him.



Micah 5:1-2

1 Marshal your troops now, city of troops,
for a siege is laid against us.

They will strike Israel's ruler
on the cheek with a rod.

2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times."



Isaiah 9:1-3

1 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for
those
who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land
of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future
he
will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the
Sea, beyond the Jordan—

2 The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

3 You have enlarged the nation
and increased their joy;
they rejoice before you
as people rejoice at the harvest,
as soldiers rejoice

when dividing the plunder.



Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of his government and peace
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.



Isaiah 11:1-5

1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

3 and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.
He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

4 but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the
earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

5 Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.



Jeremiah 23:5

5 “The days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch,
a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and
right in the land.



Luke 2:8-15

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor
rests.”

15 When the angels had left them and gone into
heaven,
the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to
Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,

which the Lord has
told us about.”



Station 1 Signs



We don't like WAITING!

We live in an impatient society.

We don't like to wait.

We don't want to wait.

We think—or we've been programmed to think

—

that we shouldn't have to wait.

We have a very negative view of waiting.



ACTION

Turn the timer to 3 minutes...

Listen to the ticking...

When you hear the word or see the word

WAIT...

What comes to mind?

How does the word *WAIT*, or the words

YOU MUST WAIT hit you?

How does it make you feel?

Is **WAITING** ever a good thing?



(Transitional sign/station...)

Can you think of folks in your life
who've had to wait for things?

Have you had to wait for something big
to happen to you or for you?

The children of Israel waited to be rescued from
bondage/slavery in Egypt.

Moses waited 40 years to see the burning
bush and hear from God.

Then the children of Israel, God's chosen people,
waited
again to actually get to the Promised Land.

Another 40 years of wandering in the desert...



What does it mean to have to wait on God?

What about praying?

Often God doesn't say yes or no...but just to WAIT!

How does that feel?

TELL GOD... God isn't afraid of how you feel.



Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;

2 Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive
to my cry for mercy.

3 If you, LORD, kept a record of sins,
Lord, who could stand?

4 But with you there is forgiveness,
so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

5 I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

6 I wait for the Lord
more than watchmen wait for the morning,

more than watchmen wait for the morning.

7 Israel, put your hope in the LORD,
for with the LORD is unfailing love
and with him is full redemption.

8 He himself will redeem Israel
from all their sins.



Lamentations 3:25-27

25 The LORD is good to those whose hope is
in him, to the one who seeks him;

26 it is good to wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.

27 It is good for people to bear the yoke
while they are young.



Station 2 Signs



Waiting in the Christmas Story
READ THE STORIES....



Lots of people had to wait

in the Christmas story.



Zechariah and Elizabeth had been waiting
for a child all their lives.

Elizabeth was barren, a cultural taboo in those times.
When the angel announces that the couple will conceive,
Zechariah, in the presence of an angel (actually Gabriel)
flat out disbelieves, so Zechariah isn't allowed to speak
until the baby is born...

Zechariah must wait more than nine months
to have a voice again!



Mary has to wait...to trust...to believe...

Her whole life is turned upside-down by her visit with
Gabriel.

The angel tells this virgin, engaged to be married, that
she is going to be a mom, And give birth to the
long-awaited MESSIAH!

This brave woman says yes to God and allows God
to totally change her plans.

Then she must wait for Joseph to believe her...

She must wait to receive the disbelief of her
parents, friends, family...

And she must wait for the promise to be fulfilled in her
and through her.



What happens when we have to WAIT?

**We learn something
We are forced to change...**



What if we choose not to wait?

What if we run ahead?



Luke 1:5-25

5 In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. 6 Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. 7 But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both well advanced in years.

8 Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, 9 he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to

go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. 10 And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. 12 When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. 13 But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John. 14 He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, 15 for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born. 16 Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God. 17 And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

18 Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”

19 The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. 20 And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.”

21 Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. 22 When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

23 When his time of service was completed, he returned home. 24 After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. 25 “The Lord has done this for me,” she said. “In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.”



Luke 1:57-80

57 When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy.

59 On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, 60 but his mother spoke up and said, “No! He is to be called John.”

61 They said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who has that name.”

62 Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. 63 He asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone’s astonishment he wrote, “His name is John.” 64 Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue was loosed, and he began to speak, praising God. 65 The neighbors were all filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. 66 Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, “What then is this child going to be?” For the Lord’s hand was with him.

Zechariah’s Song 67 His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

68 “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

69 He has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David

70 (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),

71 salvation from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us—

72 to show mercy to our ancestors
and to remember his holy covenant,

73 the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

74 to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,
and to enable us to serve him without fear

75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

77 to give his people the knowledge of salvation
through the forgiveness of their sins,

78 because of the tender mercy of our God,
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

79 to shine on those living in darkness
and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the
wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.



Luke 1:26-38

26 In the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin’s

name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.”

29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”

34 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

35 The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. 37 For no word from God will ever fail.”

38 “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May it be to me according to your word.” Then the angel left her.



Matthew 1:18-25

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19

Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



Luke 1:39-56

39 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

46 And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,

49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name.

50 His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.

53 He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.

54 He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful

55 to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."

56 Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.



Station 3 Signs



The Survey Says...

What things do we WAIT for?

We wait for planes, buses,

We wait in traffic

We wait at the doctor's and dentist office

We wait to get paid

We wait for grades

We wait for people

We wait in line!

We wait for dinner

We wait for love

We wait for acceptance letters, job offers, proposals, raises.

We don't see waiting as a POSITIVE THING...

It seems wasteful, useless, unproductive, interrupting
our plans and our agendas.



How do you think God views WAITING?



Take time to fill out the survey!

Thanks!



**Please take the time to fill out this survey...Thanks for your TIME!
Please answer in minutes, hours, days, etc.**

What do you like least about waiting?

Where do you hate to wait the most?

How long are you willing to wait for a friend to show up for lunch or coffee?

(minutes, hours, etc.) _____

How long are you willing to wait for a relative? _____

For a really, really good friend? _____

How long are you willing to wait for someone to show up for a business lunch or coffee meeting? _____

What is the difference?

How late is acceptable for you to show up to meet a friend? _____

How late is acceptable for you to show up for any other type of meeting? _____

How long are you willing to wait for someone to call you back?

How long are you willing to wait for an email response?

What about a text message? _____

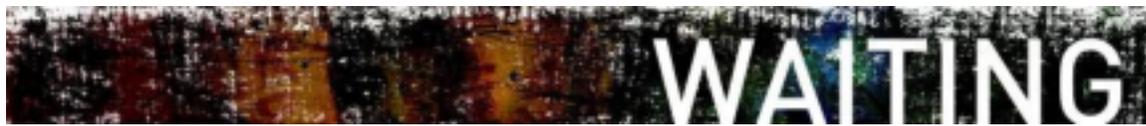
How long are you willing to wait at the doctor's or dentist's office?

What is the longest you've waited for anything?

What was it?

How did the waiting go? What did you do while you waited?

How did you feel as you waited?



(PAGE 2)

What are you waiting for or waiting on now?

How long are you willing to wait for God to show up in your life?

How long are you willing to wait for God to answer your prayers?

Are you willing to give God time in your life? _____

TAKE THIS SURVEY WITH YOU... and continue to talk to God about waiting.



**(Psalm 27:14 and Psalm 40:1-3,
please see Prayer Station 0)**

Psalm 37:34

34 Hope in the LORD

and keep his way.

He will exalt you to inherit the land;
when the wicked are destroyed, you will see it.



Station 4 Signs



HOW DO YOU SEE TIME?

Look at the clocks and watches....



In your life, is TIME flying by?

Is TIME ticking slowly by...like molasses in

January?

How do you think GOD views TIME?



What difference does it make in your life

how

you see time and how God sees time?

Ask God to show you.

TAKE THE TIME!



God isn't bound by time or space.

God isn't bound by our timeframes
or calendars — or even our deadlines
or biological clocks!



How long is enough time?



WHO'S TIME ARE YOU ON?

Yours?

Your parents'?

Your friends'?

God's?



What is a SHORT WAIT?



What is a LONG WAIT?



How do we change our perception
of WAITING?

How do you change your own?



USE the clocks you see

each day to remind you to
live on God's time.



Ecclesiastes 3:11

He has made everything beautiful in its time.
He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet
no one can fathom what God has done from
beginning to end.



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.



Psalm 90:4

A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by,
or like a watch in the night.



Station 5 Signs



INSTANT

EVERYTHING!



WE LIVE IN AN INSTANT SOCIETY!

We want everything NOW!

Wealth, fame, faith, a new waistline...

We microwave

We order take out

We want broadband NOT dial-up

We text message when phoning is too slow

We IM when email is too slow



Are you a fast-food follower of Jesus?

Are you a pizza-delivery Follower?

Are you a pizza-delivery Christian?

Do you expect delivery in 30 minutes or less
in order to be satisfied?



Make a LIST of the excuses
you make or USE for

not waiting on God...



Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

1 There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:

2 a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,

3 a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,

4 a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,

5 a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain,

6 a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,

7 a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,

8 a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.



Station 6 Signs



Taking the time to create in the busyness of life.

Our perception of TIME has changed.

No longer are we governed by the setting or rising of the sun.

No longer are we deterred by the hour of the day...

We now have a 24-7 culture....

We no longer need to go to the library for research, we just use
the Internet at home....

We no longer need to drive to the mall, we just order online....

We no longer need to pick up the phone, we just email....

Actually writing a letter with a pen and paper isn't done
anymore...



We buy things preassembled,
premade, ready to go...

Even cookie dough comes in the cookie-
shaped
rounds or squares, ready for the oven.



We have lost the *process*...

Often we've lost the methods,

the steps, the patience that it takes for
things to come to fruition....



**We don't take the time
to watch things grow...**

We want the flowers to
already be in bloom...



What do we miss by avoiding
or ignoring the process?



ACTION

Take the time to be creative...

Create something for the Prayer Tree...

As an act of worship for the coming king....



Exodus 31:1-4

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, 2 “See, I have chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, 3 and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with wisdom, with understanding,

with knowledge and with all kinds of skills— 4
to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver
and bronze...



Colossians 3:23

23 Whatever you do, work at it with all
your heart, as working for the Lord, not
for human masters...



Station 7 Signs



Preparing the Way

The children of Israel waited centuries to hear
from a prophet...and finally John the Baptist

shows

up proclaiming that the King was on his way.

They'd been waiting for centuries for Messiah!



Ask God to prepare the way before you...

Ask God to make your path straight...

Ask God to prepare your heart for Messiah.

Ask Jesus to prepare you for the journey.



Take out the rocks...

Make the path smooth...

Play in the sand....touch it...

smooth it out...



What rough places are in
your life right now?

What rocks are along your path do
you need God to smooth out in order

for the king to come?

Talk to Jesus about this.



Isaiah 40:2-4

2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

3 A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

4 Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.



Isaiah 57:14-15

14 And it will be said: “Build up, build up, prepare the road!

Remove the obstacles out of the way of my people.”

15 For this is what the high and exalted One says

—
he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with those who are contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.



Mark 3:1-3

1 Another time Jesus went into the synagogue,
and a man with a shriveled hand was there. 2

Some of them were looking for a reason to
accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see
if he would heal him on the Sabbath. 3 Jesus
said to the man with the shriveled hand, “Stand
up in front of everyone.”



Matthew 3:1-3

1 In those days John the Baptist came,
preaching
in the wilderness of Judea 2 and saying,
“Repent,
for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” 3

This
is he who was spoken of through the prophet

Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”



Station 8 Signs



Who are you waiting for?

What are you waiting for this Christmas?

What do you need from Jesus?

Is your manger dusty, filled with spider
webs and old straw?

Or maybe you never had a manger before—do
you need to find one or build one this year
in preparation for the coming of the King?



ACTION

Put your name in the manger—

and tell Jesus what you need.



Matthew 7:6-8

6 “Do not give dogs what is sacred; do not throw your pearls to pigs. If you do, they may trample them under their feet, and then turn and tear you to pieces.

7 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.



Luke 11:9-11

9 “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.

11 “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead?



Station 9 Signs



Willing to Wait on Emmanuel

Light a candle and add it to the advent
wreath



Ask God to show you how to

wait on him this season

Ask Jesus to show you how

to prepare him room



Light a candle as a symbol of your
willingness to wait...

Or your willingness to be in Jesus'
process this Holiday season...

Talk to Jesus

Tell him your heart...



Take a candle home.

Light it during December to remind

you that God is with you!



John 1:14

14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only [Son], who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



Station 10 Sign



Missing the Gift

Many people are missing the gift of God's
love this season...

Pray for these friends, neighbors, coworkers,
family members...

Write their names on tags and hang the tags on
the
tree. Ask Jesus to open their hearts to his love...
that they will feel comforted, that they will feel
his
presence and know his peace...especially if they
are WAITING.



John 13:34

“A new command I give you:
Love one another. As I have loved you,
so you must love one another.



Matthew 28:19-20

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all
nations, baptizing them in the name of the
Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20
and teaching them to obey everything I have

commanded you. And surely I am with you
always, to the very end of the age.”



John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his
one and only Son, that whoever believes in
him shall not perish but have eternal life.



Station 11 Signs



TYPES OF WAITING:

Active Waiting

Be Still and Know Waiting

“Sitting on My Rear, Making
Excuses” Waiting



ACTIVE WAITING

Think of Simeon...read his story.

Luke 2:21-35

21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

22 When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), 24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

29 "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

30 For my eyes have seen your salvation,

31 which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

33 The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, 35 so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."



Simeon knew he wouldn't die until
he saw the Messiah.

He didn't just sit in the Temple, though...

He lived his life in expectation of what

God would do.

He believed. He acted on the promise.

He only got to see Jesus as a baby...

And ONLY for a few minutes...



WAITING ON GOD...

BE STILL...

Think of ANNA...read her story.

Luke 2:36-38

36 There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 and then had been a widow for eighty-four years. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. 38 Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.



WAITING

Anna stayed in the temple for years,
worshiping, praying, just being with God.

She allowed God to speak to her.

She gave God her time.

She got to see the Messiah.



WAITING

When you're waiting, do you sit
around doing nothing?

Do you scream and yell and get
angry or impatient?

Do you get mad at the waiting...or at God?

Do you pray harder...or pray less?



Are you willing to wait for the timing of
God?

Are you willing to wait for the center
of the candy?

Take and eat and be willing to wait



Station 12 Signs



How does God need you to
wait for him right now?



Take some time...

And wait...

Rest...

and stop to listen to him.



Psalm 46:10

10 “Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.”