



Genesis 2:3. What charge were the shepherds given? How did they respond.

### **Read Exodus 13:13**

3. The word "redeemed" means "to cut loose or sever, to ransom, to rescue, or deliver." It is the same word that is used in Exodus 13:15 to describe how God spared the firstborns of His people at the time of the Passover.

4. Reviewing these OT traditions, what significance do you now find in the fact that Jesus was presented at the temple?

### **Read Luke 2:25-38.**

5. How would you describe Simeon?

6. What do the words Simeon spoke in verses 29-32 and 34-35 speak of?

7. How are we now a fulfillment of Simeon's words then?

8. Looking at verses 36-37, how would you describe Anna?

9. How was her message described in verse 38?

10. Compare Simeon and Anna, both as individuals and the impact they make in this passage. Are there similarities? Differences?

11. Is there anything significant about either Simeon or Anna? Yet how were they used by God?

12. Do you believe God still uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things by His power today? Why or why not?

13. Could there be extraordinary things for you to do?

14. Simeon is described as "righteous and devout." How do you think he gained that reputation?

15. Anna is described as one who "worshipped night and day." How do you think she gained that reputation?

16. Simeon's and Anna's lifestyles allowed them to be used for an extraordinary purpose. Does your lifestyle reflect a desire to be used by God?

### **Action Steps**

*Stop, Start, Continue*

I am convinced that if we humble ourselves and live God's way, we will be able to look back on our lives and see a legacy of extraordinary impact for Him. This week, I challenge you to *Stop* doing one activity that takes us away from the things of God (examples could be switching the radio station you listen to in the car, changing what you watch on tv, getting off social media for a week, etc.). Replace these things by "*Start*"ing to do one activity that aligns your lifestyle more closely to God's call on us (examples could be reading your Bible every day, spend intentional time praying with God, fast for a meal daily in order to focus on God, give financially as God calls us to, share how Jesus has made a difference in your life with someone, etc.). Finally, *Continue* to cultivate the activities in your life that are God-honoring.

This week I will:

Stop: \_\_\_\_\_

Start: \_\_\_\_\_

Continue: \_\_\_\_\_

*Verses to Consider:* Psalm 63:1-11; Isaiah 64:8; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20; 2 Corinthians 4:7-12; Colossians 3:1-17; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 Peter 2:9-10