



THE BIG IDEA

Hope is Promised.

THE BIBLE

Isaiah 43: 1 – 5, Luke 1: 26 - 38

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

VIDEO | Simply Hope, Episode 4

INSTRUCTIONS: *Play this week's video*

The story of Jesus is filled with lots of important people, and most of them are talked about before Jesus is born. But we know the real reason for this season. Jesus is the one we've been waiting for!

REFLECTING:

- Who promised Jesus would be coming?
- What makes Jesus' birth so different from any other we could wait for?

SCRIPTURE | READ Luke 2:22-40

- Simeon and Anna each had been waiting for the Savior for a very long time. God had spoken to Simeon and told him he would meet the Savior during his lifetime. Anna prayed and fasted regularly – that means she gave up eating certain foods for certain periods of time – because she knew that God would send a Savior one day.
- And the Savior finally came – Jesus was born to save all the people. **Anyone know what Jesus came to save us from?** That's right, from our sins. And even though they would have to wait a little while longer until Jesus grew up for this to happen, the waiting was pretty much over – the Savior had come!

DISCUSSION

- **What was the name of the man in Jerusalem waiting for Jesus?**
- **What was the name of the woman in Jerusalem waiting for Jesus?**
- **Who promised Jesus would be coming?**
- **Read Galatians 4:7. What does it mean when it says we are "God's own child?"**
- **Simeon listened to God and God guided him to the temple on the right day at the right time to meet Jesus. How can you listen for God?**
- **Anna prayed and fasted while waiting for God. How can you spend time growing closer to God while waiting?**



- Who is someone in your life you can tell about God who doesn't know about God yet?

ACTIVITY | Would you Rather

INSTRUCTIONS: *Ask a series of questions listed below.*

- **Would you rather wait for your turn at the playground or for a ride on a roller coaster?**
- **Would you rather wait for dessert or wait for the weekend?**
- **Would you rather wait for a package to arrive or wait to unwrap a gift?**
- **Would you rather wait to give someone a gift or surprise a friend with a visit?**

Some things are easy to wait for and other things are hard to wait for. But we know that waiting on God's promises is always worth it! **Hope is Promised!**

PRAYER

Jesus, we're thankful that you are the one we've been waiting for all along. You became human to understand every human that was, is, and ever will be! You are the one we have been waiting for, and we can't wait to know You more and more each day. Amen.

BLESSING

Make the sign of the cross on each family members forehead and say, "Hope is Promised, God Loves You."

THE BIG IDEA: Jesus is the one we've been waiting for.

THE BIBLE: Simeon and Anna Welcome Jesus:
Luke 2:22-40

