

Giving Away Christmas Week 2

Text: Luke 2:22-35

1. When you think of the basic ways you (we) are blessed to be a **blessing** to others, what comes to mind? What are some of the everyday blessings we tend to take for granted?

2. Think about **Sacrificial Giving**; what might that look like in your life? What could you sacrifice (give or give up) that would cost you either financially, or through time or giving of your gifts or of yourself to others? How would another benefit if you gave sacrificially? What is one thing that would be hard for you to either give or give up so another could be blessed?

3. Pastor Joe pointed out that God honors **Righteous Devotion** (Luke 2:25-26) by showing us how Simeon prayed for, looked for and waited for 'the consolation of Israel' to come. As he faithfully waited God sustained Simeon. What does waiting for something God has promised look like in your life? How do you 'wait'? Is there something you'll do differently going forward since learning more about Simeon and his devotion to God as he waited?

4. When have you seen (or received) a blessing because someone else gave without looking for a return on their generosity? PERSONAL: If the Holy Spirit is nudging you to 'be the blessing' to another - don't delay - take action today!

5. How do you respond to the **Gift** of Jesus? Who needs to know this gift is for them, also? How will you share Jesus with another this Christmas season?

For by grace, you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8