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**The Adventure-Anna**

**Luke 2:25-38, Isaiah 40:1-5, James 1:27, and Acts 1:8**

**October 29, 2023**

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**DAILY DEVOTION**

Find a rhythm in God's word this week! Follow this 5 day plan on your own or with your group.

<https://www.bible.com/en/reading-plans/37712>

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**INSPIRATION**

“Anna, in her story, invites us to the same sort of expectation with which she lived her life. She models what healthy Christian discipleship can look like: some type of fasting, continual prayer, and sharing the good news with others. She helps us imagine what it could look like for us to rely solely on our Maker. It is a radical life that she lived, which issues to us a radical invitation to wait expectantly for the glory and goodness of God.” (Alisha Riepma)

**ICE BREAKER**

1. Who in your life has been a model of deep devotion to God?
  2. What do you think a life fully devoted to God looks like?
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**DEEP DIVE**

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:

“ Faith is...Being sure of what we hope for. Faith is not wishful thinking – that is usually how we view faith – well I sure hope so – I hope that God is real – I hope that there is a heaven – I hope I get to go there – I hope there is not a hell – I hope that I don't go there. Faith is not that. Faith is being absolutely certain that what we believe is true and will come to pass. It is with conviction that we look forward and trust in God. Therefore, this faith determines how I live no matter what.”

**Read Luke 2:25-38 and then answer the following questions:**



3. After reading Luke 2:25-38, how would you characterize Anna and Simeon?
4. What do you learn about the baby Jesus from this passage?
5. How could you, like Anna, live out your life in worshiping God and sharing about Jesus?

**Read this out loud**

An excerpt from the message this week:

“Your friends are waiting for someone who will tell them about what they have seen and heard. That is what Anna did – this is what I have seen. You can do that too – here is what I know – here is what Jesus has done for me – come with me – it is – he is real. You might not have all the answers to their questions – but you know them – well enough to tell your story – your faith journey – I once was lost and now I am found journey.”

**Read Isaiah 40:1-5, James 1:27, Acts 1:8 and then answer the following questions:**

6. Read Isaiah 40:1-5 and determine how we are to comfort people according to these verses. How do you tie comforting others with the gospel of Jesus?
7. Read James 1:27. According to this verse what is pure religion? Notice pure religion requires us not to be corrupted and to help widows and orphans. Pastor Mark noted two things we can do to help others which includes being present in their lives and listening. What are some ways to be present in other people’s lives and listen?
8. Read Acts 1:8. Anna told anyone who would listen about Jesus. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in sharing about Jesus according to this verse? What is the Spirit’s role in your life and others when sharing about Jesus?

**Additional Study**

If you have time during your Small Group or you want to study more about the message topic, read and consider the following passages:

- Psalms 70:5
- Matthew 25:44
- Acts 4:20

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**NEXT STEP**

1. Who needs you to be present to help them through a hard time? What can be your next steps?



2. Who in your family, coworkers and friends needs to hear about Jesus? What is one practical step you can take this week to share with them?
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### **PRAYER**

1. Pray for one person in your group to take their next steps.
  2. Pray for God to help you rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance in these situations.
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### **SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY**

Establish a regular rhythm of serving together! Below are some service opportunities.

- BENSON - Local Mission Partner is ABIDE. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- MILLARD - Local Mission Partner is Heartland Hope. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- FREMONT - Local Mission Partner is LifeHouse. Contact Campus Pastor for more information.
- OMAHA - Local Mission Partner is Open Door Mission. Contact Lyndsey Deyoe for more information.
- Or get to know your community! Seek out service opportunities in your area.