

What gifts can we bring?



# Simeon's Gifts to Jesus

- Simeon (he who listens to the words of God)
  - Righteous, devout, eagerly waiting Messiah & rescue of Israel
  - Spirit led
  - “Simeon was there” – blessing



# Anna's Gifts to Jesus

- Anna (favored Grace)
  - Daughter of Phanuel (face of God)
  - Tribe of Asher (fortunate, blessed, happy)
  - Never left temple
  - Worshiped day & night using fasting & prayer
  - Praising God
  - Shared about Jesus w/ all waiting expectantly for God's rescue of Jerusalem





## Reborn!

- We have been reborn into such a family as Simeon and Anna!
- Unwrap your presents! Then USE them!

# I Am Accepted.

- 1 Cor. 6:17 I am united with the Lord, and I am one spirit with him.
- Eph. 2:18 I have direct access to God through the holy spirit.
- Rom. 5:1 I have been justified.
- Eph. 1:1 I am a saint.
- Col. 1:14 I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins.
- Col. 2:10 I am complete in Christ.

# I Am Accepted because...

- 1 Cor. 6:19,20 I have been bought with a price. I belong to God.
- John 1:12 I am God's child.
- John 15:15 I am Christ's friend.
- 1 Cor. 12:27 I am a member of Christ's body.
- Eph. 2:18 I have been adopted as God's child.

# Our Gift to Jesus

- **Live like you're accepted by God & Christ!**

# I Am Secure.

- Rom. 8:28 I am assured that all things work together for good.
- Rom. 8:35-39 I cannot be separated from the love of God.
- Col. 3:3 I am hidden with Christ in God.
- Phil. 1:6 I am confident that the good work that God has begun in me will be perfected.
- 2 Tim. 1:7 I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love and a sound mind.
- Heb. 4:16 I can find grace and mercy to help in time of need.

# I Am Secure because...

- Phil. 3:20 I am a citizen of heaven.
- 1 John 5:18 I am born of God and the evil one cannot touch me.
- Rom. 8:31-34 I am free from any condemning charges against me.
- Rom. 8:1,2 I am free forever from condemnation.
- 2 Cor. 1:21,22 I have been established, anointed and sealed by God.

# Our Gift to Jesus

- **Live securely in Christ!**

# I Am Significant.

- Matt. 5:13,14 I am the salt and light of the earth.
- John 15:15 I am a branch of the true vine, a channel of his life.
- 2 Cor. 5:17-21 I am a minister of reconciliation for God.
- Eph. 3:12 I may approach God with freedom and confidence.
- Phil. 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

# I Am Significant because...

- John 15:16 I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit.
- Acts 1:8 I am a personal witness of Christ.
- 1 Cor. 3:16 I am God's temple.
- 2 Cor. 6:1 I am God's coworker (1Cor.3:9).
- Eph. 2:6 I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realm.

# **Our Gift to Christ**

- **Live a significant life; live the Kingdom now.**

# Salvation: God's gift to us

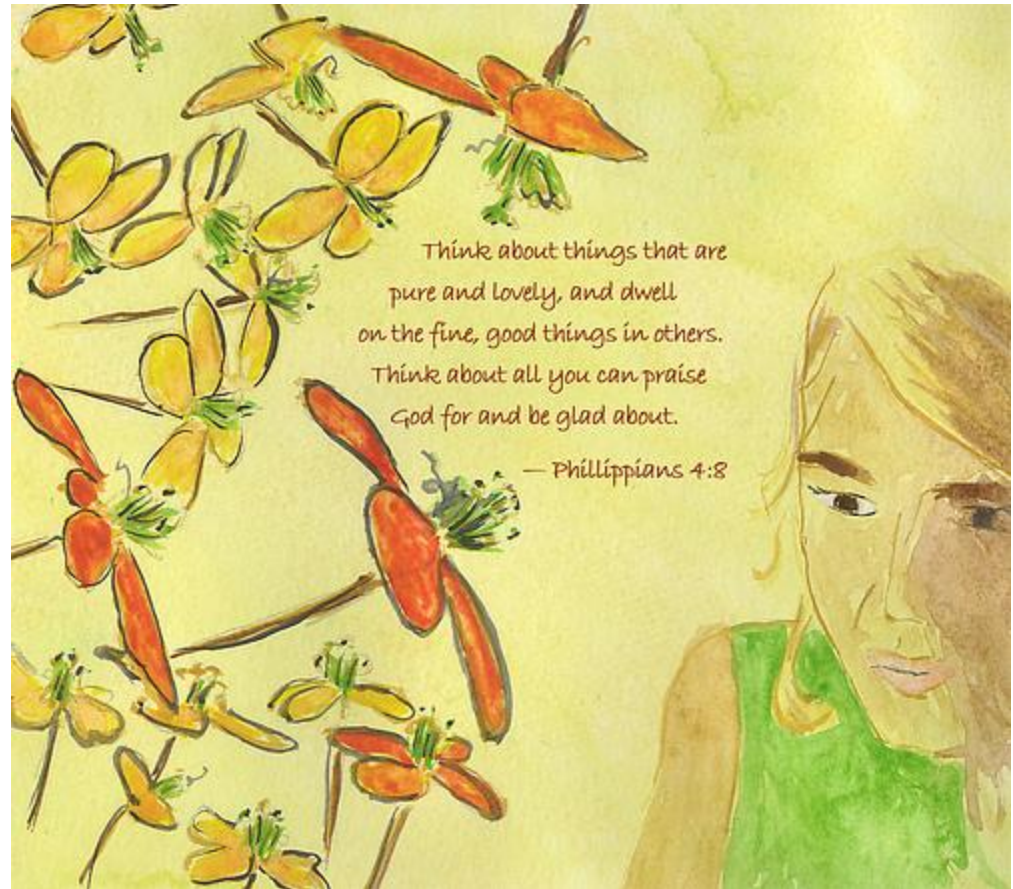
- Salvation:
  - Can't inherit it, we ARE God's inheritance
  - For ALL people who accept it
  - God wants ALL to be saved
  - God's plan from the beginning
  - Jesus is the ONLY way to salvation

# The Upward Call: our gift to God

- Being a disciple means doing
- Follow Christ's example; follow Paul's
- Focus on ONE thing:
  - Forget past
  - Look forward
  - Press to the end of the RACE
  - Receive heavenly PRIZE

# Practicing these as your gift

- Phil. 4:8 Fix your thoughts & think on:
  - True
  - Honorable
  - Right
  - Pure
  - Lovely
  - Admirable
  - Excellent
  - Worthy of praise



Being present is a present.





*Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right,  
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—  
if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.*