The Sweet Old Lady of Christmas

Introduction:

Luke 2:36-38

Galatians 4:4 ... when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law

Luke 2:36 And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage 37 and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. 38 At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

#1 THE PURPOSE OF CHRISTMAS:

38 And at that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God and continued to speak of Him to all those who were <u>looking for the redemption</u> of Jerusalem.

1 Peter 1:18-19 ... knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

#2 THE EXPECTATION OF CHRISTMAS:

38 And at that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

#3 THE RESULT OF CHRISTMAS:

38b continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem

What do we learn from ANNA?

Questions for family discussion:

- 1 Why do people need to be redeemed? Why don't many see the need?
- 2 What difference does Christ make when He causes someone to be born again?
- 3 How can I be a better witness for the good news?

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