

How To Live a Grace-Full Christmas

Luke 2:36-40

Pastor Scott George

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Luke 2:36-40 (NKJV), *Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; ³⁷ and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. ³⁸ And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.*

³⁹ *So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.*

Anna - Grace

What others are saying about Grace

- "Grace is the permanent climate of divine kindness; the perennial infusion of springtime into the winter of bleakness."
– John O'Donohue
- "Your worst days are never so bad that you are beyond the reach of God's grace. And your best days are never so good that you are beyond the need of God's grace."
– Jerry Bridges
- "Grace is but glory begun, and glory is but grace perfected."
– Jonathan Edwards
- "Grace comes into the soul, as the morning sun into the world; first a dawning; then a light; and at last the sun in its full and excellent brightness."
– Thomas Adams

How To Live a Grace-Full Christmas

1. Speak words that lift others up.

Luke 2:36a, *Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess...*

2. See your age (experience) as a blessing, not a liability.

Luke 2:36b, *She was of a great age...*

3. Recognize that everything you do serves God.

Luke 2:37, ... and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

4. Make sure your heart is full of Thanksgiving this Christmas.

Luke 2:38a, And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord ...

5. Look and be alert to opportunities to share the real gift of Christmas.

Luke 2:38b, ... and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

6. Create a culture for grace to expand all year long.

Luke 2:40, And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

In case you missed it...

Answers:

1. Lift
2. Blessing
3. Serves
4. Thanksgiving
5. Gift
6. Culture