

MESSY CHRISTMAS

Christmas, 2019

Pastor Ken Ritz *December 22, 2019* New Life Vineyard Church

Luke 2:4-14

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Matthew 2:11

This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:12

Others tested (Jesus) by asking for a sign from heaven.

Luke 11:16

What happened to Jonah was a sign to the people of Nineveh that God had sent him. What happens to the Son of Man will be a sign to these people that he was sent by God.

Luke 11:30 NLT

1. JESUS CAME TO _____ PEOPLE.

I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

Luke 2:10

2. JESUS CAME TO _____ PEOPLE.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

Luke 2:25-32

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

Luke 2:36-38

FOR INCREASED JOY AND HOPE THIS SEASON:

- Talk to the birthday boy more than you normally would.
- Read his Christmas card more than you normally would.
- Treat difficult family/relatives with acceptance and warmth.
- Thank God for (and forgive/bleed) the people in your life.
- Share time or a gift with lonely/depressed people.