

Christmas Stories with Jolly

By Jill Crowder

Simeon and Anna Meet Jesus



Preschool
Edition

Simeon and Anna Meet Jesus

When Jesus was a very tiny baby, his parents, Mary and Joseph, took him to the temple. They also took two birds. This was a very special thing people used to do after they had a baby. They did this to praise God for sending them a baby. The birds were offered as a sacrifice.

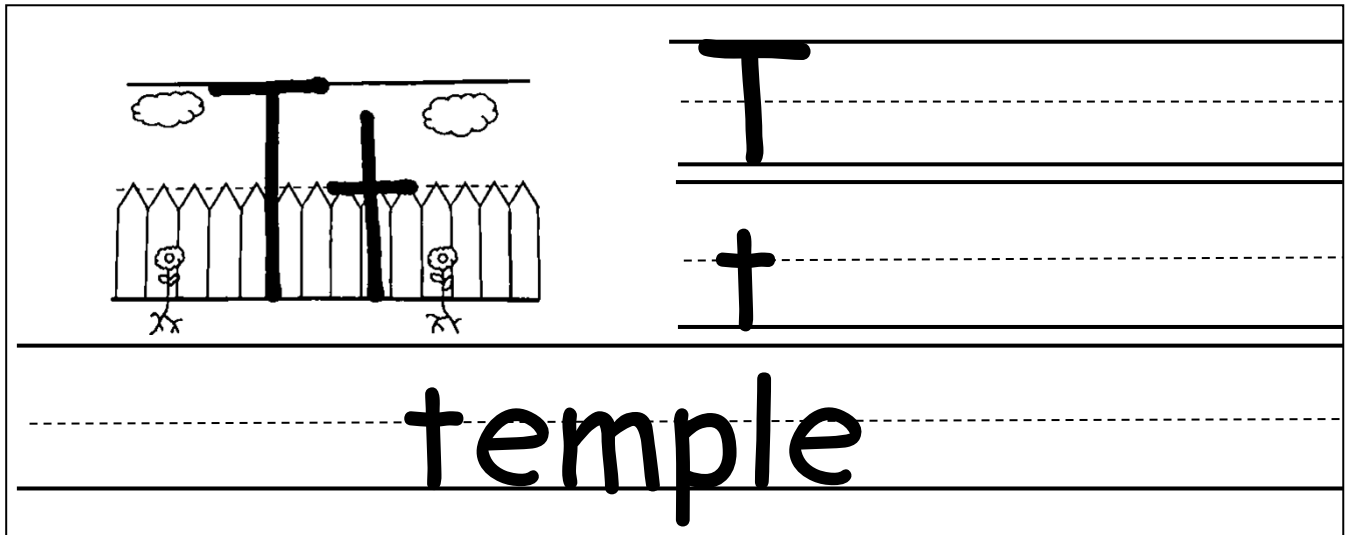
Jesus was an extra special baby. God had sent him to save the world and bring His people closer to Him. Jesus was the Messiah. People had been waiting for the Messiah for a very long time, but they expected him to be a strong warrior not a little baby. Most people didn't realize there was anything special about this baby, at all.

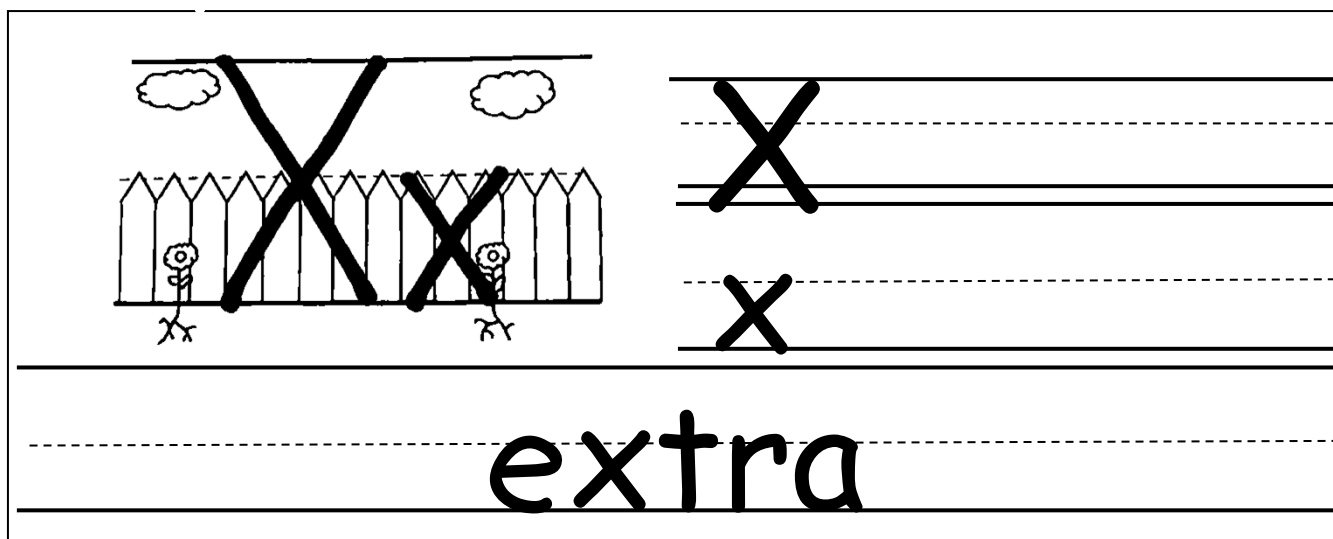
When Mary and Joseph entered the temple, a very old man came up to them. This man's name was Simeon. God had promised Simeon he would one day see the Messiah before he died. Simeon was filled with the Holy Ghost, and he knew that Mary and Joseph's baby was the precious Messiah he had been waiting to meet. Simeon held baby Jesus in his arms and prayed a special blessing over him. Then Simeon said, "Now I can die in peace for I have seen thy salvation." He knew the baby in his arms would grow up to save all the people in the world, not just his kind of people.

Mary and Joseph couldn't believe that Simeon knew all the things the angel had told them about their precious baby. They knew God was doing something special, but it was still a surprise every time they found out that other people knew about Jesus before they told them. Then Simeon turned to Mary and told her many people would love Jesus, but there would also be many people who would hate Him. He warned her that being the mother of the Messiah would hurt her heart sometimes because of how people would treat Him.

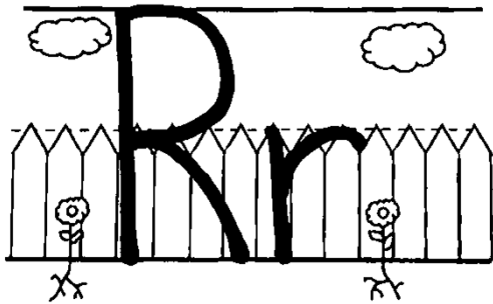
While they were at the temple, another person came up to them who knew Jesus was an extra special baby. Her name was Anna. Anna had been living in the temple for 84 years since her husband died. She was a prophetess. She prayed and worshipped God all the time and she knew God had sent this very special baby to be the redeemer. She knew this baby would rescue her people and help make them better and closer to God.

Then Mary and Joseph said good-bye to Simeon and Anna. They took baby Jesus and left the temple.





1. Where did Mary and Joseph take Jesus when he was a baby?
2. Why did they go to the temple?
3. What did they take with them for a sacrifice?
4. What was the man's name they met in the temple that day?
5. What had God promised Simeon?
6. How did Mary and Joseph feel when Simeon knew all about God's plan for Jesus?
7. What did Simeon tell Mary would happen because she was Jesus's mother?
8. Who else did Mary and Joseph meet in the temple that day?
9. Where did they go when they left the temple?

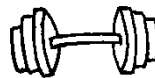


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redeem

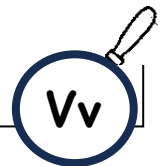
Baby Jesus was very young, but Simeon and Anna were very old. Young and old are opposites. They are all the way different. Look at the pictures below and match the picture on the top to its opposite on the bottom.



When Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to the temple, they could take a lamb, two turtle doves, or a pair of young pigeons to be used as a sacrifice. "Pair" means two. Look at the pictures below and draw a line to the pair of matching shoes.



For mine eyes have seen thy
salvation. Luke 2:30



Redeem

- to rescue someone or something and make it better

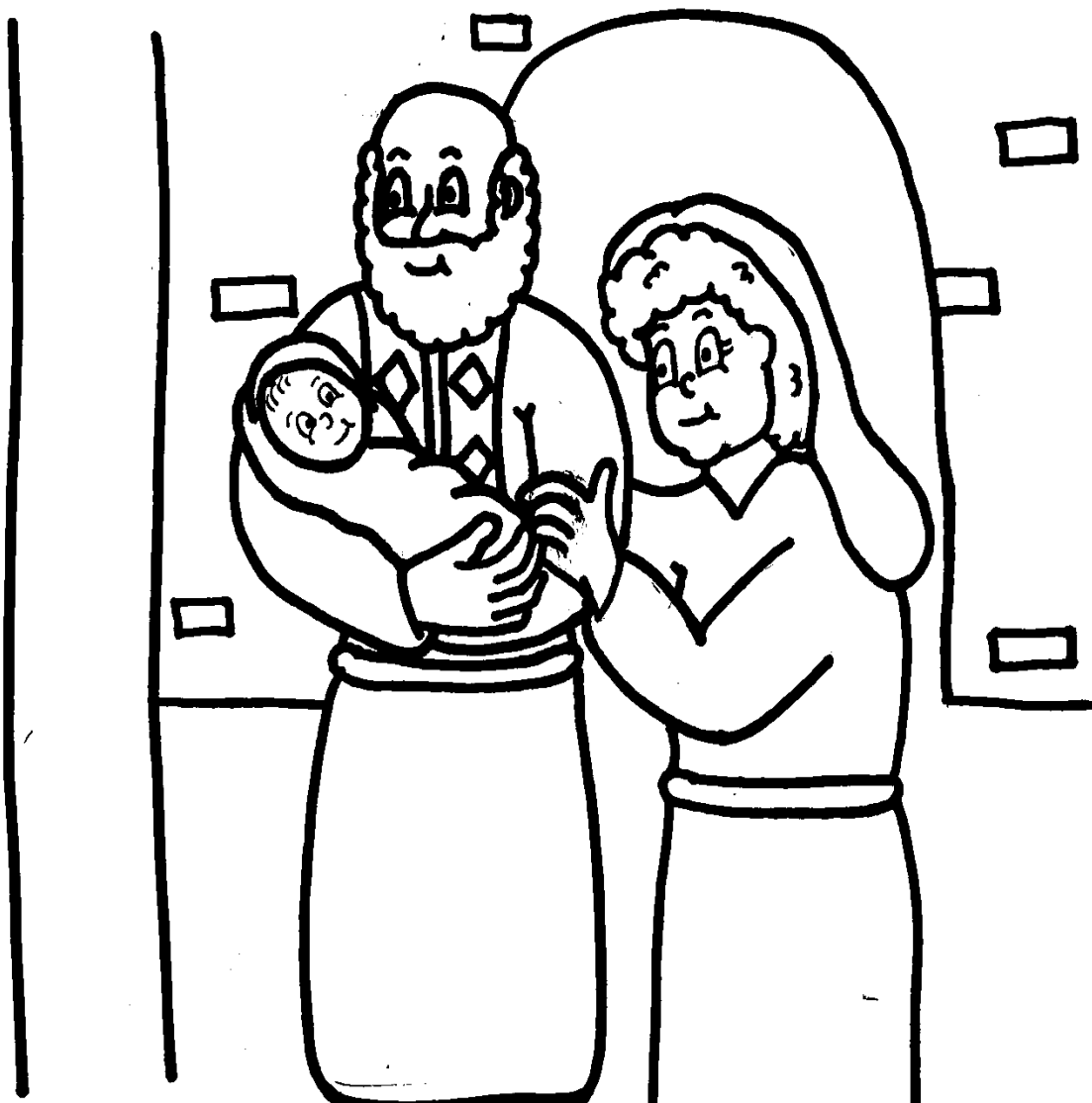
When Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple, they also took two birds. In the space below, draw two birds.

- I met Mary and Joseph in the temple.
- I loved God.
- I knew Jesus was the Messiah.
- I was very old.
- I lived in the temple for 84 years after my husband died.

Who am I?

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For mine eyes have seen thy salvation. Luke 2:30



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