

Raising Kids through Mayhem

Ceremony #1: Presenting their baby to God

Luke 2:21 (NIV) *And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*

Ceremony #2: Purification Offering

Luke 2:22 (NIV) *When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord*

Ceremony #3: “Redeeming” the child from God

Luke 2:23 (NIV) *Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord*

1). Be Intentional

Colossians 1:10 (NIV) *So that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.*

- Be who you want your kids to be
- Talk at the dinner table
- Go to worship every Sunday.

2). Expand the Circle

Luke 2:25 (NIV) *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.*

²⁶ *It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.* ²⁷ *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,*

²⁸ *Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:* ²⁹ *“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.* ³⁰ *For my eyes have seen your salvation,*

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

³³ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed...

^{35b} And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”