

THE
Wise Women
OF CHRISTMAS

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; 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. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

Luke 2 : 36 - 38

How does Anna
live that's wise?

In the midst of adversity,
Anna *redeems the*
discomfort of weakness,
waiting and wanting.

Anna redeems the
discomfort of *weakness*

Three times I pleaded with the Lord
to take it away from me.

2 Corinthians 12 : 8

“My grace is sufficient for you, for
my power is made perfect in
weakness.”

2 Corinthians 12:9

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.

Luke 2 : 37

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

Isaiah 7 : 14

Our brains form **neural pathways**—connections between neurons—that get stronger the more often we perform a task. And when we perform a task enough times, we no longer have to think about how it's done. This is when it becomes a habit.

How Habits are Formed
Science Connected Magazine

Anna redeems the
discomfort of *waiting*

Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted; but
they who wait for the LORD shall renew
their strength; they shall mount up with
wings like eagles; they shall run and not
be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40 : 30

Anna redeems the
discomfort of *wanting*

...as it is written in the law of the Lord,
“Every male who opens the womb shall
be called holy to the Lord”), and to offer
a sacrifice according to what is said in
the law of the Lord...

Luke 2 : 23 - 24

And coming in that instant she
gave thanks to the Lord...

Luke 2 : 38

...spoke of Him to all those who
looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

Luke 2 : 38