

Sermons from the Gospel of Luke



Awakening

Luke 2:22-38

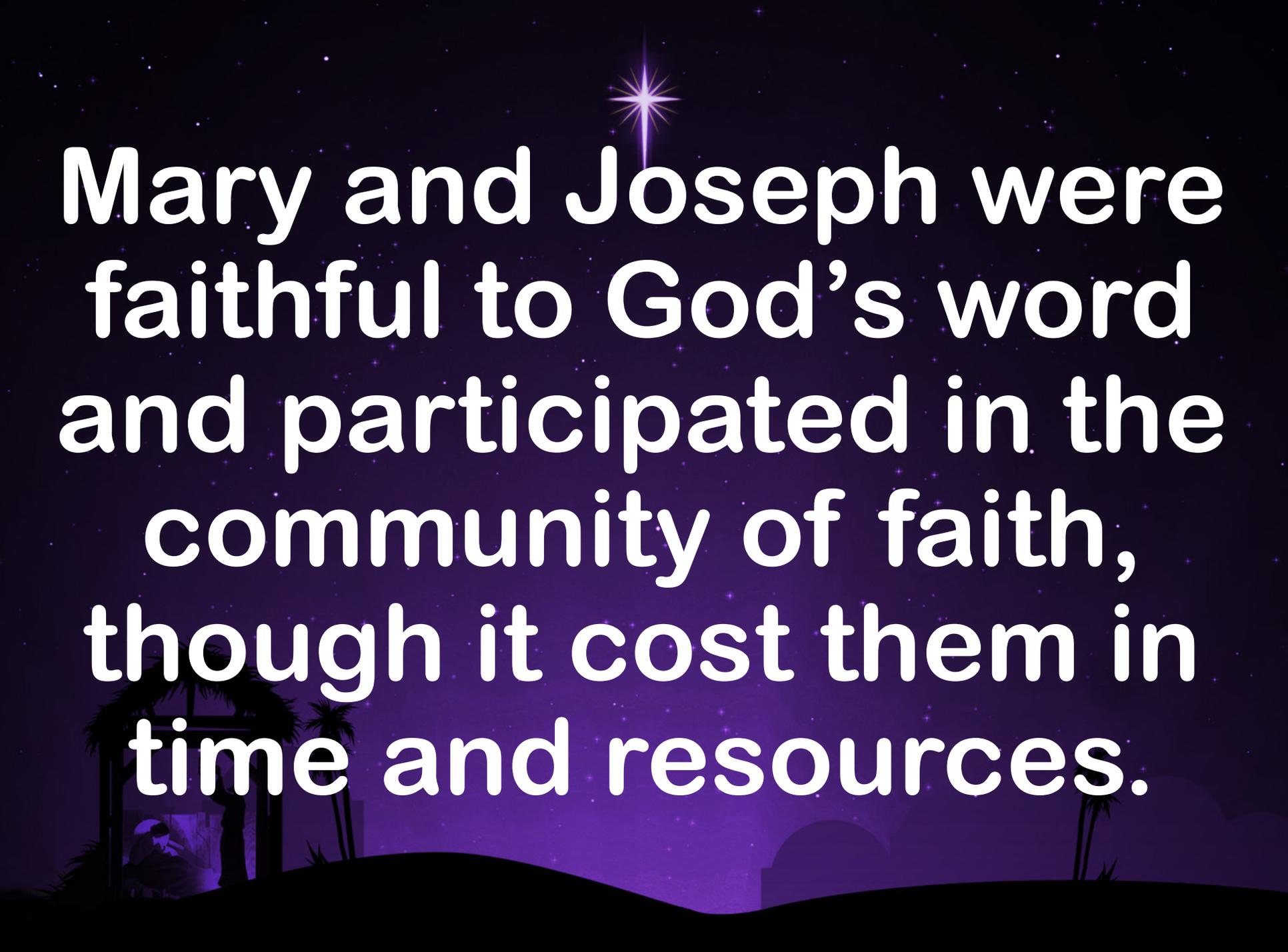




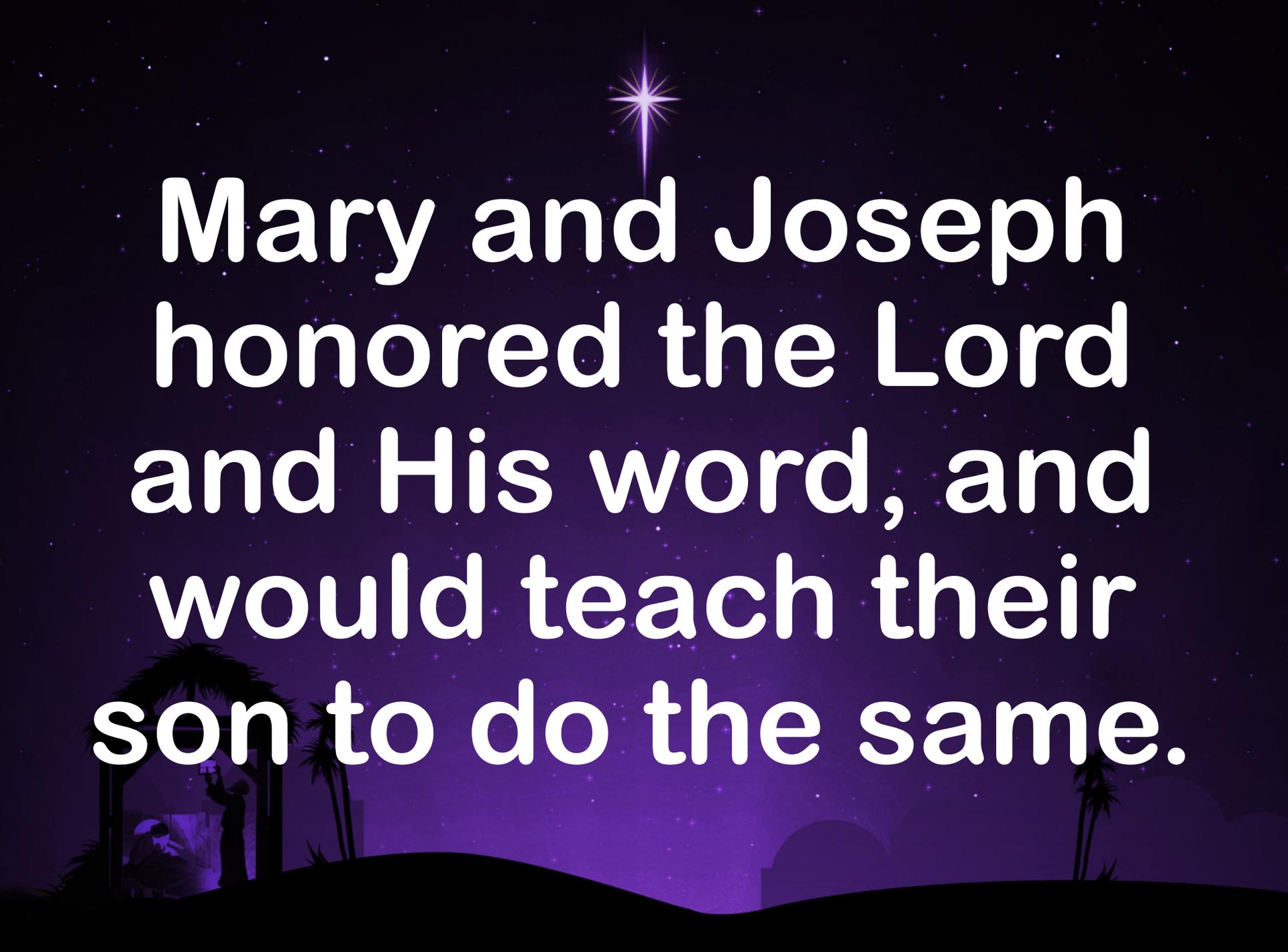
1. The spiritual
awakening occurred
as Mary and Joseph
practiced their religion
with their small family.

2:21-24



The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, twinkling stars. A single, very bright star with a multi-pointed starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees and a building with a prominent archway. The overall scene is serene and evokes a sense of a quiet night in a tropical or biblical setting.

Mary and Joseph were faithful to God's word and participated in the community of faith, though it cost them in time and resources.

The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, twinkling stars. A single, very bright star with a multi-pointed, starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of a landscape. On the left, a manger scene is depicted with a person kneeling and another standing nearby. On the right, there are silhouettes of palm trees and a building with an arched doorway. The overall scene is a stylized representation of the Nativity.

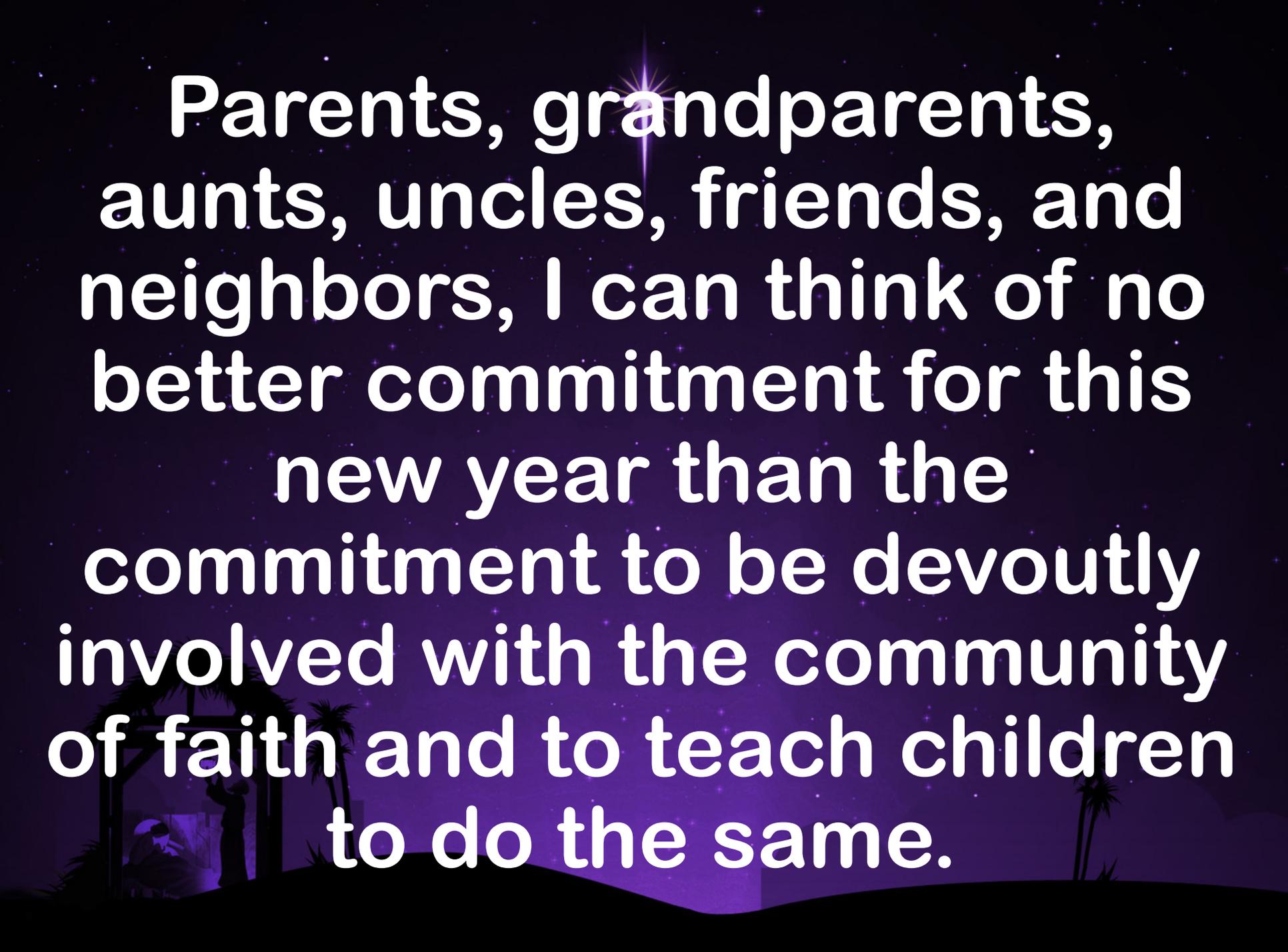
Mary and Joseph
honored the Lord
and His word, and
would teach their
son to do the same.

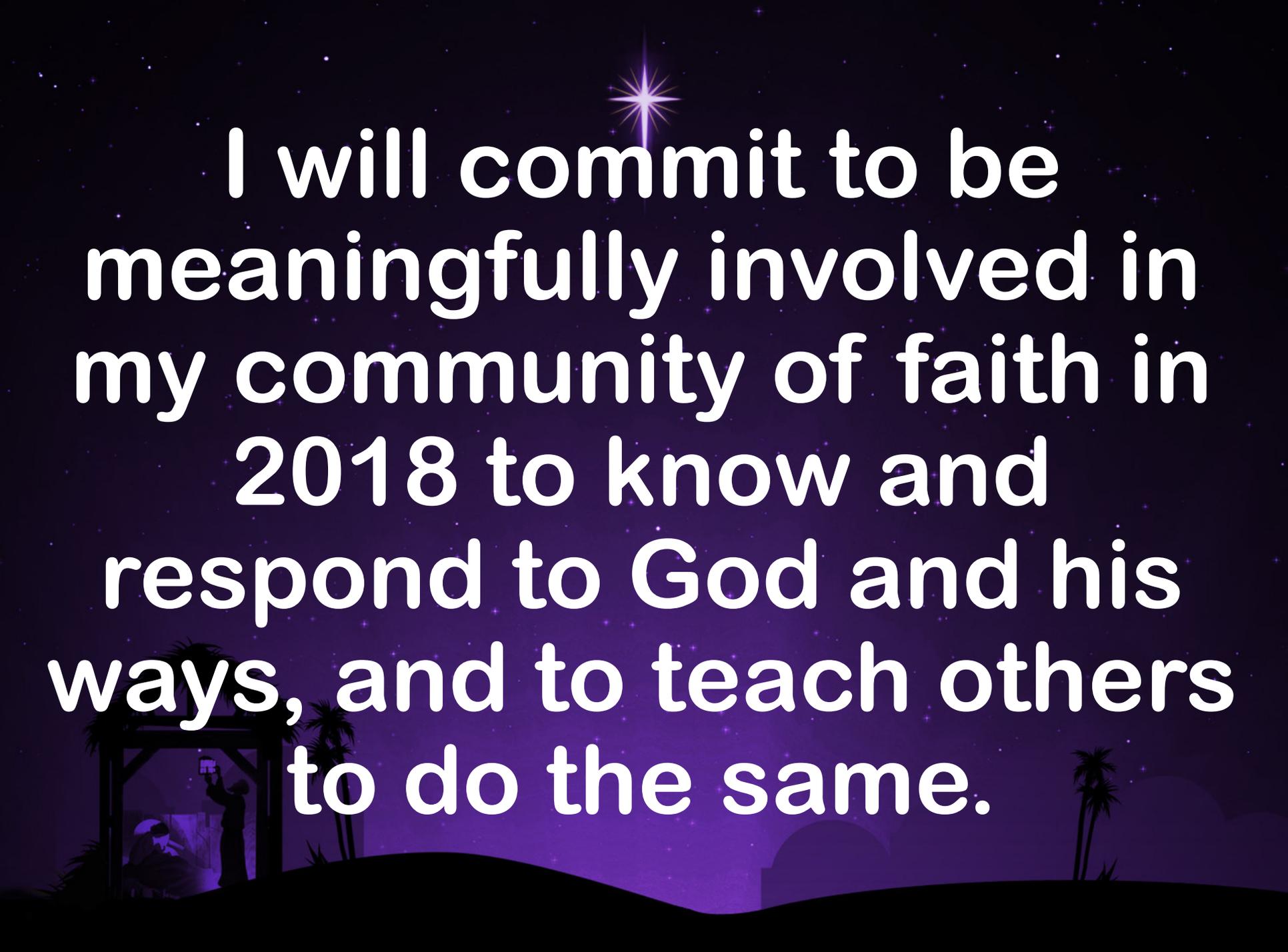
2006 National Spelling Bee



gettyimages®
Alex Wong

Parents, grandparents,
aunts, uncles, friends, and
neighbors, I can think of no
better commitment for this
new year than the
commitment to be devoutly
involved with the community
of faith and to teach children
to do the same.

The background features a dark purple and blue gradient with a bright starburst effect at the top center. In the lower-left corner, there are silhouettes of people gathered around a table, possibly in a church or community setting, with palm trees visible in the background.

The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, distant stars. A single, very bright star with a multi-pointed starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of a landscape. On the left, a church building with a steeple is visible, with a person standing near the entrance. To the right, there are several palm trees. The overall scene is peaceful and spiritual.

**I will commit to be
meaningfully involved in
my community of faith in
2018 to know and
respond to God and his
ways, and to teach others
to do the same.**



2. The spiritual
awakening was to
the scope of Jesus'
mission. 2:25-32, 38

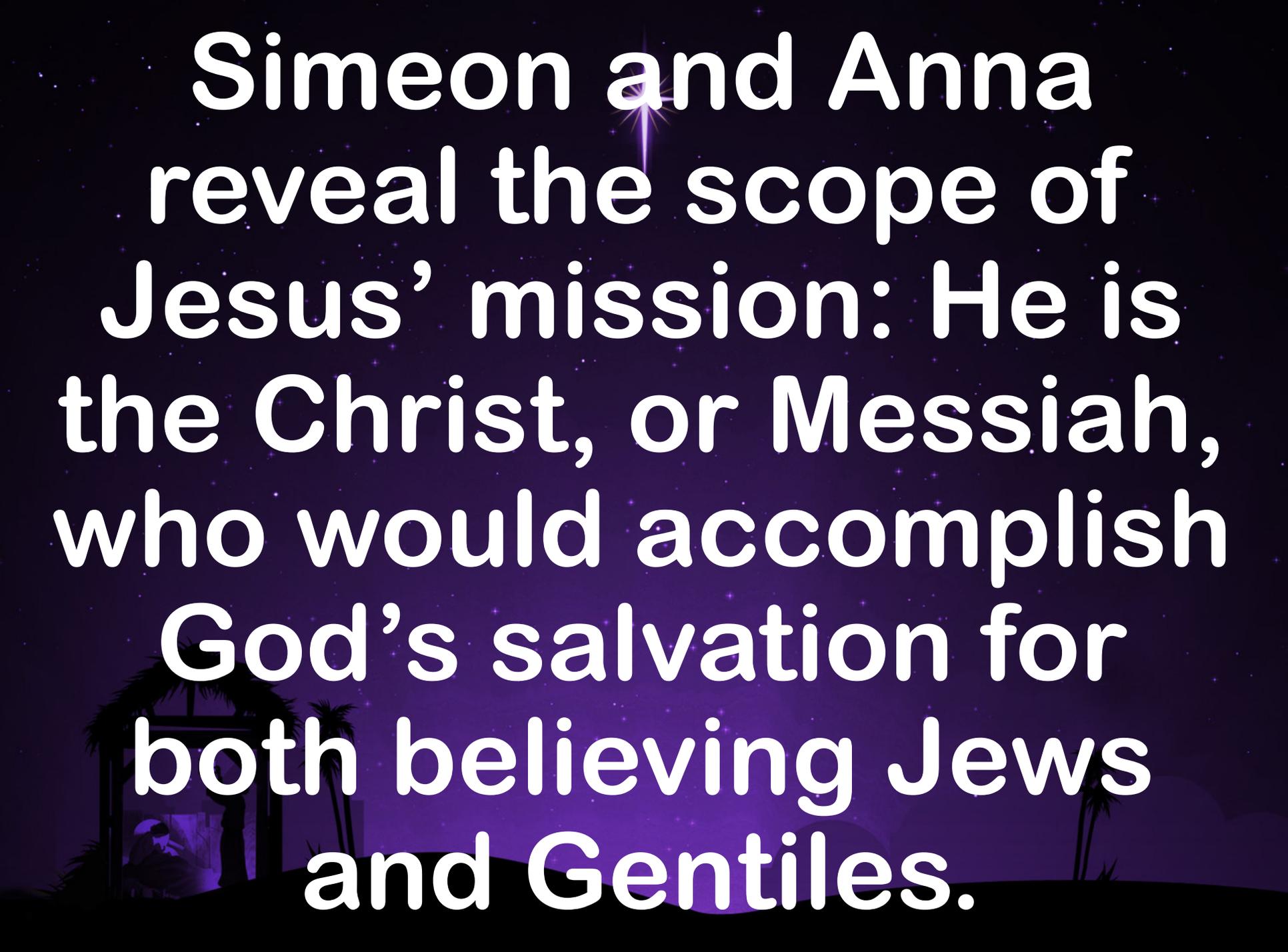


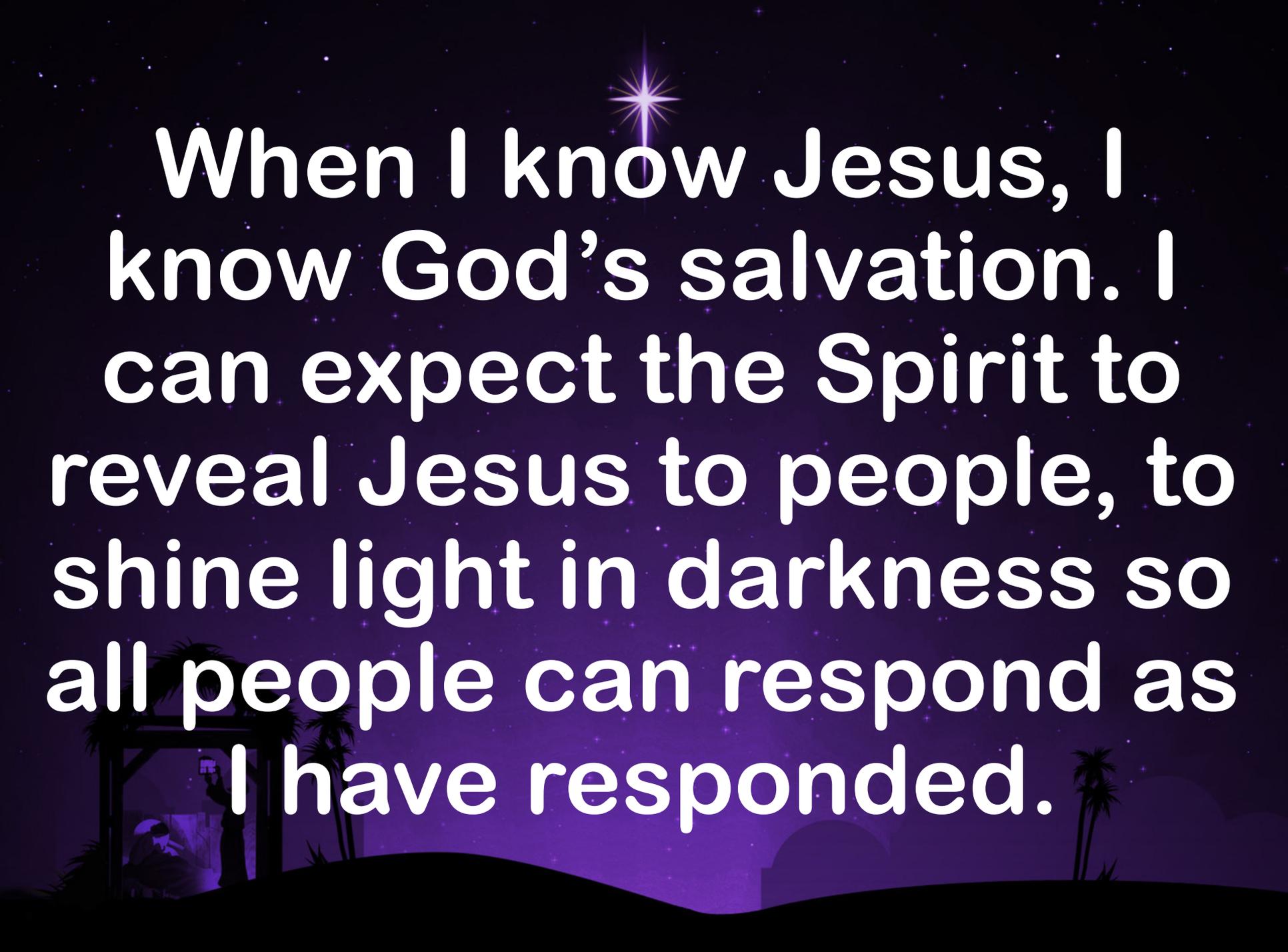


Simeon and Anna
received and acted
on God's word
revealed to them by
the Holy Spirit.

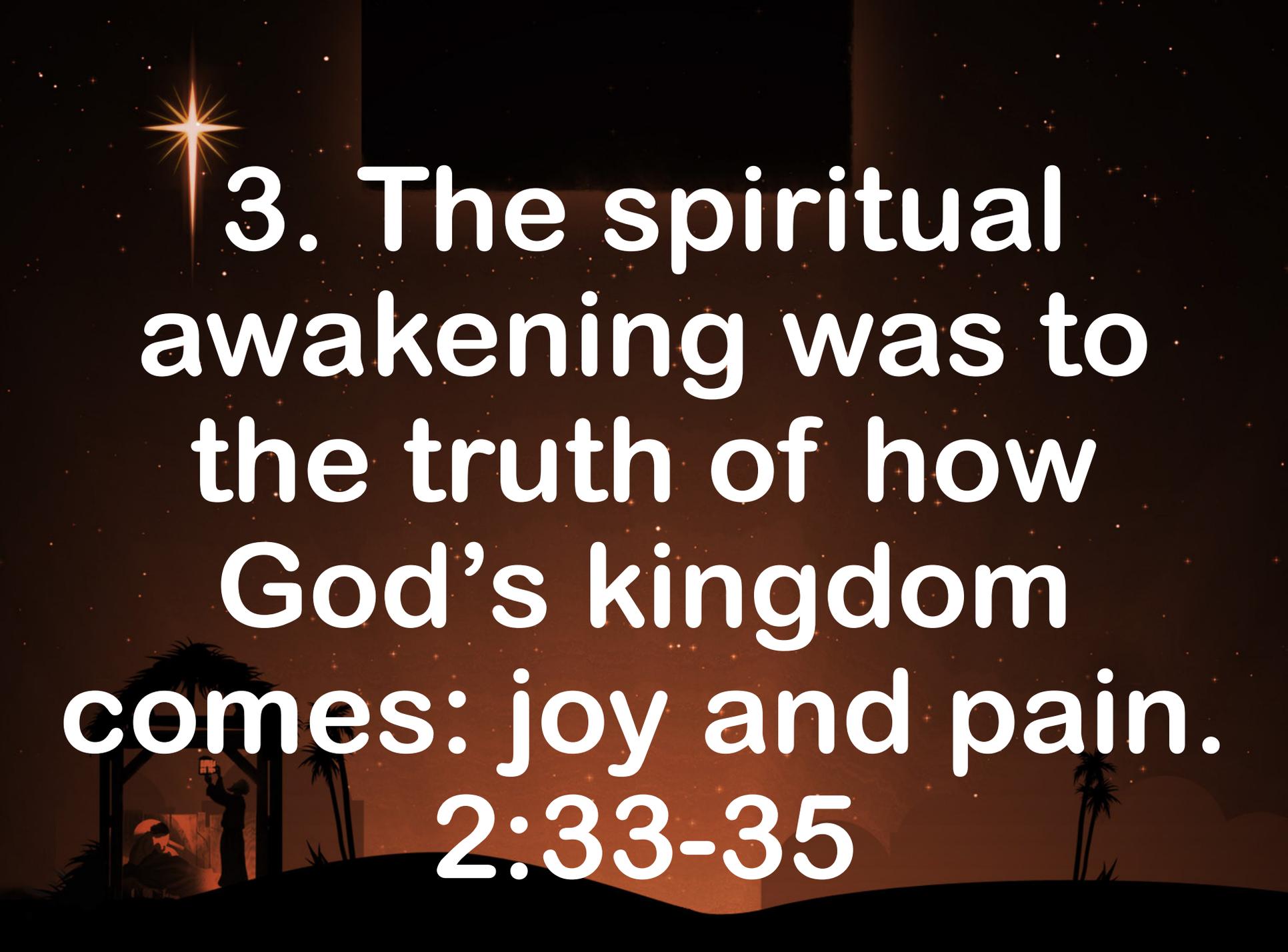


Simeon and Anna
reveal the scope of
Jesus' mission: He is
the Christ, or Messiah,
who would accomplish
God's salvation for
both believing Jews
and Gentiles.

The background features a dark purple and blue gradient with a starburst effect at the top center. In the lower-left corner, there is a silhouette of a building with palm trees, and in the lower-right corner, there is a silhouette of a palm tree. The overall scene is set against a night sky.

The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, twinkling stars. A prominent, bright star with a multi-pointed starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees and a building with an arched entrance. The overall scene is serene and evocative of a night sky.

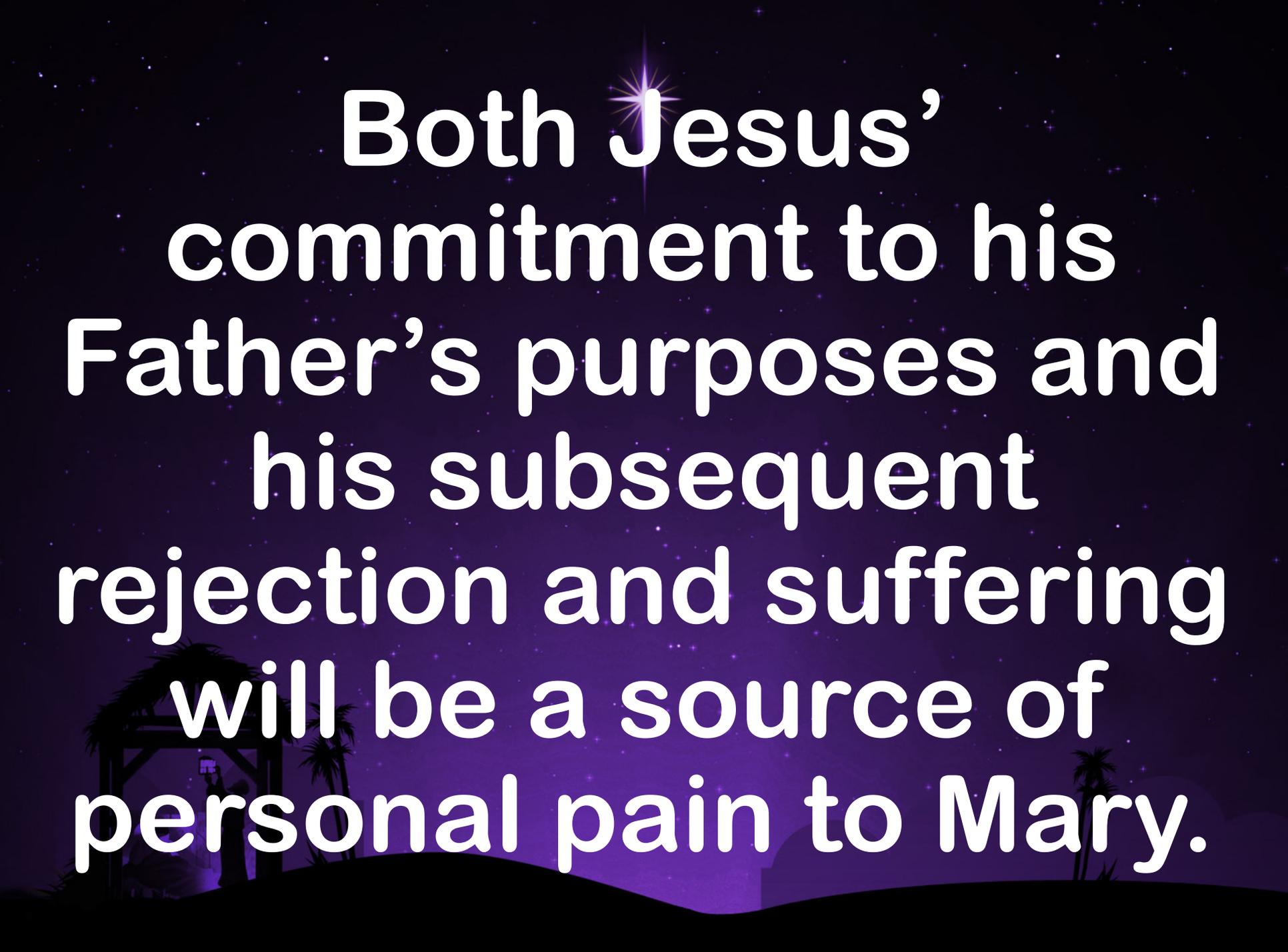
When I know Jesus, I
know God's salvation. I
can expect the Spirit to
reveal Jesus to people, to
shine light in darkness so
all people can respond as
I have responded.

The background of the slide is a dark, starry night sky. A prominent, bright star with a multi-pointed flare is located in the upper left quadrant. In the lower portion of the image, there are silhouettes of palm trees and a person standing under a small structure, possibly a gazebo or a simple shelter, holding up a light source. The overall color palette is dark with warm, golden-brown highlights from the star and the person's light.

**3. The spiritual
awakening was to
the truth of how
God's kingdom
comes: joy and pain.
2:33-35**

God's loving purpose
of accomplishing the
salvation of humanity
will be triumphant but
costly, causing the
rejection and death of
the Son.



The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, distant stars. A prominent, bright starburst with a lens flare effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees and a building with a dome, possibly a church or a historical structure, set against a dark horizon line.

**Both Jesus'
commitment to his
Father's purposes and
his subsequent
rejection and suffering
will be a source of
personal pain to Mary.**

When I encounter
and respond to
God's kingdom, I will
experience the
paradox of joy and
pain.





**Will I alter my life in
2018 to conform to
Jesus Christ and his
cross?**

