

Encountering Jesus' Growth

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Luke 2:49-52 And he [Jesus] said to them, *"Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"* And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. **And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.**

SUMMARY:

Jesus became like us, so that we could become like Him. What drove the young Jesus at 12 is what marked His saving life. We see here the development of the balanced life of Jesus Christ. In modeling our lives after Jesus we can develop a real strategy for growth. When Genuine faith occurs in the heart. When God becomes the central focus of our being. When our submission to the Lord and His word shows that our desire is to obey Him. Then we can truly grow like Jesus grew.

NOTES:

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question: If you knew then (at 12 years old) what you know now, what would you have done differently?

Discussion:

How can we be about the "Father's concerns" in all we do?

Knowing what you know now about growing like Jesus grew, where do you need to focus your attention?

Wisdom? Stature? Favor with God? Favor with man?

APPLICATION:

1. Pick your growth area of most needed development.
2. Find a verse or passage that best summarizes that growth. Do a Bible word search with an online Bible. (www.biblegateway.com)
3. Read and pray that passage to God daily for 30 days.
4. Make a written plan that we affect practical change in that area. NO EXCUSES!

ON YOUR OWN...

Matthew 22:37-39- Focus

Hebrews 4:12- Playbook

Luke 2:52- Strategy