

Cultivate Gospel of Luke Study
Lesson Six

Read and meditate on Luke Chapter 2 this week
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class.

Verse 39, *"Now the Child continued to grow and to become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him."*

It's easy to picture the baby Jesus and the adult Jesus. Do we forget that He was a child, and a teenager? He had to learn to walk, to talk and to speak from his parents. He had to be submissive to humans that were born with the sinful nature. He had parents that made mistakes.

Verses 41-51

Can you relate to poor Mary at this time? Have you ever forgotten to pick up a child from school, or an event?

Imagine traveling a full day towards home, on foot, and realizing that you've lost God's Son! That must have been terrifying. But The Heavenly Father knew exactly where His Son was.

Verses 48-50

1. What business did Jesus have in His Father's house? Why might his parents have not understood his answer?

It's hard to believe now, that it could ever happen. But we must realize that they traveled to the feasts in large caravans. Perhaps they assumed that he was walking with some neighbor kids. In any case, they had to travel back to Jerusalem when they realized Jesus was missing.

Barnes Notes- "After three days - This means, probably, "on the third day" after they had left Jerusalem - that is, the first day they went toward Galilee, on the second they returned to Jerusalem, and on the third they found him."

Read Verse 47

He showed a wisdom and understanding of Spiritual matters that seemed beyond his years to those around Him. We should not underestimate the Holy Spirit's ability to speak to and teach those who are young. Rather observe *all* believers in their words and actions. Encourage youth to grow in their knowledge of Scripture and to put it in to practice as Paul did to Timothy in 1Timothy 4:11-16.

Mr. Wiersbe again- "The word *must* was often on our Lord's lips: "I must preach" (Luke 4:43); "The Son of man must suffer" (Luke 9:22); the Son of Man "must be lifted up" (John 3:14). Even at the age of twelve, Jesus was moved by a divine compulsion to do the Father's will."

Verses 51,52

"51And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued to be subject to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and people."

Jesus grew in wisdom (broad and full intelligence; specifically, the varied knowledge of things human and divine).

2. What does the Bible say about wisdom? Search verses and write out your favorite to share.

Warren Wiersbe- "The Boy Jesus grew up in a large family, in a despised city, nurtured by parents who were probably poor. The Jewish religion was at an all-time low, the Roman government was in control, and society was in a state of fear and change. Yet when Jesus emerged from Nazareth, eighteen years later (*after being found in "His Father's House"*), the Father was able to say of Him, "Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22). May the Father be able to say that about us."

What were you like as a child? Were you obedient or rebellious?

3. Jesus gave the example of children being submissive to their parents. What does Scripture say about *why* children should be obedient?

Matthew Poole’s Commentary- **“But his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.** Mary was no forgetful hearer, some things she did not yet clearly understand, but she kept them in her heart; and those who do so as to God’s word shall in time understand them.”

Jeremiah 33:3 – *“Call to me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know”*. Do you practice calling on God for wisdom?

4. Read John 3:10, Mark 4:33,34, Matthew 16:11,12, and John 13:7. Which verse stands out to you and why?

5. Have you ever read a passage of Scripture multiple times before the Holy Spirit revealed to you the Truth that Lord was stating through it? Share your experience.

We will never completely understand all of Scripture’s meaning on this side of Heaven. But the Lord wants us to be diligent in the pursuit of learning what His Word says.

Make it your ambition to be like Ezra and:

- SEEK
- DO
- TEACH

*“...the good hand of his God was upon him. 10For Ezra had firmly resolved to **study** the Law of the LORD and to **practice** it, and to **teach** His statutes and ordinances in Israel.”* Ezra 7:9,10

Read James 1:23 and Hebrews 5:12

6. What do these verses teach us about our responsibility in regards to God's Word?

7. What, if any, changes do you need to make regarding how you read or study God's Word?

Sisters, may it be said about you that the good hand of *your* God is upon you, just as it was with Ezra.