

Focal Point: Pt 5 - Jesus Grew

March 1, 2026

Psalm 34:8 NIV Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him!

We have a mandate for growth.

God loves us the way we are, but He refuses to leave us that way.

Growth is not accidental; growth is intentional.

Philippians 3:12-14 NIV Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:17 NIV Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

✓ **We have a model for growth.**

Luke 2:41-42 NIV Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom.

Luke 2:43-45 NIV After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to

look for him.

Luke 2:46-47 NIV After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

Luke 2:48-52 NIV When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

"In my Father's House" - Jesus is fully God.

"Jesus Grew" - Jesus is fully human.

Jesus is one person, two natures: fully God and fully man, united without confusion, change, division, or separation. - Council of Chalcedon

As God: He can save us. (Acts 4:12)

As man: He understands us. (Heb. 4:15)

As God: He gives rest to the weary. (Matthew 11:28-29)

As man: He grew tired and needed rest. (John 4:6)

As God: He is the Bread of Life who satisfies hunger forever. (John 6:35)

As man: He was hungry. (Matthew 4:2)

As God: He raised Lazarus from the dead. (John 11:43-44)

As man: He wept at Lazarus' tomb. (John 11:35)

As God: He is holy and cannot sin. (1 Peter 2:22; James 1:13)

As man: He was tempted in every way. (Hebrews 4:15)

As God: He will return on the clouds of heaven in power and glory.

(Mark 14:62; Revelation 19:11–16)

As man: He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. (Zechariah 9:9; John 12:14–15)

As God: He is all knowing, unchanging, divine nature. (John 16:30, Hebrews 13:8)

As man: He grew (Luke 2:52)

✓ We have a method for growth.

Luke 2:52 NIV And Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, favor with God and favor with man.

1) Grow in wisdom.

Colossians 1:9 NIV For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,

✓ Knowledge = information

✓ Understanding = grasping what information means.

✓ Wisdom = knowing how to apply knowledge and understanding

2) Grow in stature.

“Stature is a life that carries authority and weight — a life of character.”

Romans 5:3-4 NIV Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

3) Grow in favor with God and people.

“Favor” - increasing relational goodwill with God and people.

Psalm 92:12-15 NLT But the godly will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon. For they are transplanted to the LORD’s own house. They flourish in the courts of our God. Even in old age they will still produce fruit; they will remain vital and green. They will declare, “The LORD is just! He is my rock! There is no evil in him!