

Jesus On Purpose: The Path Of A Resurrected Heart

Part 3- “Thirty Years of Silence”

Luke 2:41-52

I. HIDDEN YEARS – THE DEATH OF OBSCURITY: RESURRECTION REQUIRES A LIFE THAT HAS LEARNED TO GROW

Most of Jesus’ life is hidden, surrendered, unseen.
God values formation more than visibility.
Resurrection people are shaped in obscurity.

When you read the four Gospels carefully, one thing should surprise you more than anything else:

We get **three years** of Jesus’ public ministry...
but **thirty years** of almost nothing.

No sermons. No miracles. No crowds. No platform. No followers.

I found this book online doing a google search about this part of Jesus’ life called *My Fathers BUSINESS Sermons For Children By C.E.JEFFERSON*

Ch 2 is titled *How to Grow* and he points out the only two scriptures Luke uses to reference Jesus’ upbringing.

“And the child grew” (Luke 2:40)

“He increased in wisdom and in stature” (Luke 2:52)

And Jefferson’s argument is that Luke makes this “stand out all alone” because it is the **main fact** of Jesus’ first 30 years: **God formed Him by slow, normal, faithful growth** - the kind of growth that prepares a person to endure suffering, temptation, misunderstanding, rejection, and costly obedience.

- the “hidden years” are not wasted years; they are **foundation years**—God burying the seed so it can later bear fruit.

Think about it? God chose to hide His Son for **three decades**.

****Does this deeply challenge how we think about purpose?***

Because if God’s goal was impact, He wasted time.
But if God’s goal was **formation**, He was right on schedule.

- “Obscurity” is not absence—God is building the inner life.

Jefferson says God “keeps you a child as long as he can... so the foundation work inside of you may be completed,” using the metaphor that God is *“perfecting a wonderful instrument.”*

I believe what we can learn from this is :

- God hides what He is forming.
- God delays visibility to deepen capacity.
- God prepares Christ’s humanity to withstand the weight of ministry and the cross.

And Supporting Scriptures are :

- **Hebrews 2:10** (Jesus made “perfect” through sufferings—completion through the path)
- **Hebrews 4:15** (He truly shares human weakness)
- **Philippians 2:6-8** (humbling trajectory that begins long before the cross)

II. THE MOMENT HE STEPPED OUT — AND STEPPED BACK

Luke 2:41-52 gives us the one moment Jesus breaks His silence.
He was Twelve years old. In the temple. And He astonished the teachers.

And then He says something shocking:

“Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?”

Jesus’ takes a moment out of His life to provide a glimpse of where His mind is at, to all of creation. Present and Future; just as we are standing here today, and millions that have read this over the past 2,000 years.....**He Knew**

He knew His purpose He knew what He was establishing, He knew the model He was setting.

For many of us when you finally see a place where God has brought you too, it’s a surprise and that is largely due to our inability and our choosing not to see the path God takes us on. Not Jesus, He Knew, and He did it anyways.

When Jesus hits that temple and says those words to the teachers it could have easily been over their heads, but the echoes throughout history shows us what Jesus is communicating:

“I know who I am.

I know why I am here.

I know my calling.”

And then... He goes home. Back to Nazareth. Back to carpentry. Back to obscurity.

“He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them.” (Lk 2: 51)

Jesus voluntarily returned to a small town, a life unseen , full of labor, submission, and slow growth
Why?

Because calling does not outrun formation.

Obscurity is not the absence of God — it is the workshop of God.

Nazareth was not wasted time.

It was the **birthplace of the Cross.**

III. OBSCURITY FORMS A LIFE THAT CAN BE CRUCIFIED AND RAISED

Nazareth was not glamorous, strategic, or influential.

It was small, ignored, and unimpressive—and that is exactly where God chose to shape His Son.

Jefferson is relentless on this truth: **character is formed when no one is watching.**

The message here is that Hidden obedience produces **cross-bearing** ones.

Obscurity is not punishment; it is **preparation.**

It kills pride. - It deepens roots.- It forms humility.- It teaches dependence.

God allowed Jesus thirty hidden years because:

A soul that has not learned to grow cannot survive death.

This is Hebrews 5:8 in narrative form:

“He learned obedience through what He suffered.”

*****Growth builds the inner structure that resurrection will later raise.*****

Jesus trained His heart in Nazareth without applause, without affirmation, without recognition,

So when the world later rejected Him, it would not destroy Him. He knew how to live without being seen.

God built a Jesus on purpose to give full meaning to

“I do nothing of Myself... I only do what I see My Father doing.” (Jn 5:19)

This is not proof that God and Jesus are two different beings, this is proof of God loving us so much and He is modeling a user manual on how to:

The Father became man, Jesus, not to confuse us. That’s where the enemy takes it too. to take the narrative off the real purpose.

The Father became the man Jesus to show us how we defeat death, Jesus modeled it for us.

IV. RESURRECTION PEOPLE ARE FORMED IN THE DARK

- Every resurrection in Scripture is preceded by burial.

Jesus was buried in a tomb —but long before that, He was buried in:

Routine -ordinary work -anonymity -submission

****Everything our current culture and world tells us not to be!**

Nazareth was not a delay — it was **the grave where the seed was planted.**

Doesn't this sum up God when it comes to His process: **God hides what He intends to raise.**

- Resurrection is not: hype - emotion - energy - spiritual intensity

What resurrection is **God's life flowing through a surrendered will!**

Let's take a moment and describe the opposite of this:

An unsundered will always looks for an enemy, because it does not trust God with control.

An **unsundered will**, will always resist leadership, reinterpret Scripture, attack authority and calls it "discernment"

It is not rebellion against people. That is **self-protection against vulnerability.**

It is a : **"I will not place myself in a position where someone else has power over me."**

That is a trauma-trained will — not a surrendered will. It is **self-sovereignty in religious clothing.**

****A resurrection disciple is not someone with strong feelings about God — but someone with a will trained to obey God. That is the healing path.**

Because resurrection flows through:

- submission
- patience
- humility
- trust
- obedience when it feels unsafe

Not through:

- outrage
- control
- constant exposure
- suspicion
- self-appointed judgment

An unsundered will is not seeing someone who is too bold. You are seeing someone who has **never learned how to yield.**

And God cannot raise what refuses to bow.

You cannot live a resurrection life if you will not live a surrendered one.

And Jesus proved it.

Not by overthrowing authority —

but by trusting the Father even when authority was unjust.

V. CONCLUSION

“The Death of Obscurity”

Most of Jesus’ life was not spent on a stage.

It was spent in silence.

Thirty years in Nazareth.

No crowds. No platform. No miracles.

Just growth, obedience, and hidden faithfulness.

God did not hide Jesus because He was unimportant.

God hid Jesus because He was being **formed**.

Obscurity is not abandonment.

It is the workshop of God.

Before there was a cross,

there was a carpenter’s bench.

Before there was resurrection,

there was thirty years of surrender.

God was building a human life strong enough

to carry death and come out alive.

And this is what resurrection discipleship really is:

Not hype.

Not passion.

Not outrage.

Not intensity.

But **a will trained to obey God**

even when no one sees,

even when it feels slow,

even when it feels unfair.

So here is the call:

If you are hidden right now...

if your calling feels delayed...

if your obedience feels unnoticed...

do not despise your Nazareth.

God is not ignoring you.

He is preparing you.

Let Him train your will.

Let Him shape your obedience.

Let Him bury what He intends to raise.

Because **you cannot live a resurrection life
without first living a surrendered one.**