Introduction: Engage the group by thinking about their past.

Begin by asking the following questions: “Do you remember going to church when you were a child? If so, what do you recall?” Allow for 2-3 group members to share their answers.

Point 1: Focus on the theme of the session.

Write the following quote on the white board:

When the child of God loves the Word of God and sees the Son of God, He is changed by the Spirit of God into the image of God for the glory of God because he has found the truth of God.

Divide people into 2-3 smaller groups. Let them examine this passage for a couple of minutes and then afford time for the groups to share some of their insights.

[Source: Adrian Rogers, Adrianisms, Volume 2: The Wit and Wisdom of Adrian Rogers (Memphis, TN: Love Worth Finding Ministries, 2007), 79.]

Point 3: Challenge for application.

Comment on Luke 2:52, noting how Jesus grew in wisdom and favor with God and man. Emphasize that it is easy to do the “right thing” but not have the right motive, and yet Jesus always did the right thing with the right motive. Break into groups of 3-4 and read aloud Mark 12:28-34. Then ask the following questions:

- What does Jesus identify as the greatest commandment?
- What is the second greatest?
- How should we think about Jesus’ obedience from childhood into adulthood in light of these commands?
- What should our motive be for obeying God’s commands?
Conclusion: *Challenge your group members to live the session.*

The next time you read your Bible or pray, spend a few minutes thinking about the fact that you are interacting with the infinite God of the universe who desires to commune with you. The Spirit of God even lives within us as result of God the Son leaving the glories of heaven and taking on our human form in order to pay the price for our sins. Consider the commitment to obedience that Jesus made throughout His life without which our salvation would not have been achieved. Then, on the cross, Jesus received our sin so that we might receive His complete righteousness (see 2 Cor. 5:21). Thank God for this truth.

**Teaching Tip of the Week**

The imagination is crucial when communicating with students. Too many times our lessons are packed with Bible facts that students can regurgitate but never seem to be able to apply in their lives. Warren Wiersbe writes:

While the responsibility for their disobedience is totally their own, the responsibility for making the proclamation of God’s truth exciting and personal rests with those of us who preach. The “hearers of the Word” can’t easily become “doers” if their “hearing” doesn’t become “seeing.”

Seek to engage your students’ “seeing” through the use of stories and metaphors that stimulate their heads and hearts.