

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR SERIES

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# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

GOOD NEWS &  
GREAT JOY  
*for all people*



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# Parenting Perfection

*Luke 2:39-52*

## Luke 2:39-52

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39 And when His parents had completed everything in accordance with the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth. 40 Now the Child continued to grow and to become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

41 His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. 42 And when He was twelve years old, they went up there according to the custom of the feast; 43 and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days required, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but His parents were unaware of it. 44 Instead, they thought that He was somewhere in the caravan, and they went a day's journey; and then they began looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances. 45 And when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for Him. 46 Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. 48 When Joseph and Mary saw Him, they were bewildered; and His mother said to Him, “Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You!” 49 And He said to them, “Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's house?” 50 And yet they on their part did not understand the statement which He had made to them. 51 And 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. 52 And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and people.



# Background - According to the Law of the Lord

- Luke 2:39 And when His parents had completed everything in accordance with the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.
- At the Temple
  - Circumcision - Luke 2:21
  - Purification - Luke 2:22
  - First born redemption - Luke 2:24
- Judaism
  - Daily Torah instruction
  - Daily Law following
  - Daily Prayers
  - Weekly Sabbath
  - Community and Culture



# Background - Nazareth

- John 1:46 Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good be from Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”
- Nazareth
  - Small agricultural “hamlet” - Pop. around 200-400, not mentioned in Josephus list of Galilean towns
  - No walls, market, or political power
  - Under the rule of Herod the great (until ~4 B.C.), then Herod Antipas
  - About 4 miles from Sephoris, the Galilean capital.
  - Sephoris underwent major building projects in Jesus childhood.
- Synagogue
  - Gathering weekly for sabbath worship. (~50-100 people)
  - Reading the Torah
  - Instruction and debate
  - Prayer
  - Community “political” center





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# Jesus Himself

- Daily Life (Spiritual) -
  - Daily Torah instruction and memorization
  - Kashrut Diet
  - Sabbath Observance
  - Prayers (likely morning and evening)
- Daily Life (Practical)
  - Family (4 brothers, at least 2 sisters)
  - Learned and practiced a trade under Joseph (Tekton)
  - Likely continued to support himself and family until the age of 30 (John 19:26-27)
  - Likely Joseph died before Jesus began his public ministry
- Personal
  - Spiritually focused
  - Humble
  - Personal relationship with God
  - Submissive to parents
  - Increasing in...
    - wisdom
    - stature
    - favor with God
    - favor with people

# Wisdom ,Stature, Favor

- Wisdom
  - sophia
  - wisdom, broad and full intelligence ... used of the knowledge of very diverse matters, so that the shade of meaning in which the word is taken must be discovered from the context in every particular case.
  - the wisdom which belongs to men: universally, Luke 2:40, 52; specifically, the varied knowledge of things human and divine (Thayers)
- Stature
  - hēlikia - age, maturity, stature (i.e. height, comeliness)
- Favor with God
  - charis - good-will, loving-kindness, favor



# Joseph and Mary

- Set themselves up for parenting success
  - Part of a spiritual community v 44
  - Personally dedicated to the Lord v 41
- They didn't know the whole plan.
- They weren't perfect.
- Mary isn't mentioned by name in Luke after this.
- Joseph isn't mentioned again at all.



# Parenting

- Major on the majors of parenting
- Teach Wisdom, Stature and Favor
- Build a Christ centered home
- Cultivate a pervasive culture of Christ in all you can
- Leave the unknown to God

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