

THE GOOD DOCTOR

The Gospel of Luke

FINDING JESUS

Luke 2:40-52

THE TRIP TO THE TEMPLE

(INSIGHT INTO THE MATURING PROCESS OF JESUS)

- A. Destination Jerusalem - Passover (2:41-42)
- B. Losing Jesus (2:43-44)
- C. Finding Jesus (2:45-50)
 - 1. The Search (2:45)
 - 2. The New Sensation - Jesus in the Temple (2:46-47)
 - 3. Jesus discloses his self-awareness and mission (2:48-50)
- D. Submissive Jesus (2:51)
- E. The Growth of Jesus - 4 Dimensions (2:52)
 - 1. Wisdom (Proverbs 2:1-10)
 - 2. Stature - Physical Growth
 - 3. Favor with God and man (Proverbs 3:1-8)

Discussion Questions

- 1. Read Luke 2:43-45. Can you imagine realizing that Jesus was not in the caravan going home with his parents to Nazareth after the trip to the temple? What do these verses tell us about Joseph and Mary? Discuss.
- 2. Read Proverbs 2:1-5. If you were to "treasure" God's word and aggressively seek it, what would that look like inwardly for you? What would that look like externally and practically in your life? Discuss. (question from Abide Bible)
- 3. Read Proverbs 3:5-6. What three things does Solomon tell his son to do in these verses? What is the result of practicing these three disciplines? Discuss.
- 4. Read Luke 2:52. Pray asking God for an "increase in wisdom, stature, and favor with God" and the people you interact with this year.

Luke 2:40-52 And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

The Greek word translated "increased" or "grew" (Luke 2:52, prokopto) literally means to make one's way forward by chopping down obstacles, a vivid description of the maturation process (cf. Luke 2:40). - Constable

Proverbs 2:1-10 My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, ² making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; ³ yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, ⁴ if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, ⁵ then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. ⁶ For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; ⁷ he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, ⁸ guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints. ⁹ Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; ¹⁰ for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; . . .

Proverbs 3:1-8 My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, ² for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. ³ Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴ So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

⁷ Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. ⁸ It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.