

## One wise kid

Luke 2:41-52 Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. <sup>43</sup> After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. <sup>44</sup> Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> 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."

<sup>49</sup> "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>51</sup> Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

### 1) A normal boy

- Anyone who knows boys knows that they do what they do without thinking about it.
- I can imagine other boys wandering off from their parents causing them to frantically worry.
- Boys aren't necessarily being naughty by doing that; they're just being boys.
- Jesus himself had wandered off to the temple without telling anyone where he was going. He just stayed behind in Jerusalem causing major anxiety to his parents, Mary and Joseph. They searched for him for three days before they found him in the temple
  - Luke 2:46-48 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. 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."
- Irresponsible behaviour isn't necessarily sinful, but a sign of immaturity
- Jesus was never sinful, as He was completely without sin.

### 2) A boy who knew his Father

- Luke 2:49-50 "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.
- Someone who knows their Father, desires to be in their Father's house
  - Jesus hadn't just wandered off as his parents had thought; He intentionally went to the temple – His Father's house
- True believers who know their Father desire to be in the house of God
  - Psalms 27:4 One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple.
  - This is not a ritualistic attendance, but a heart's desire for the one they know and love – you gaze on the beauty of Him whom you love. This denotes a relationship with Him
  - You seek Him denotes a desire to know Him and His will so that we can be pleasing to Him in all we are, say, and do
- Jesus asked questions – He was teachable
  - This was an indication of His humility. Only a humble person would be teachable
  - We need to be humble and teachable in order to grow into Christlikeness
  - Matthew 11:28-29 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
- We should learn from the Lord, but also from our leaders
  - Hebrews 13:7 Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

### 3) A boy who was obedient

- Luke 2:51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them.
- Jesus Himself, even as a child, was our ultimate example of obedience
- He submitted to the Father and obeyed His will even to the end
  - John 14:31 I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded me.
  - Jesus' obedience wasn't legalistic but stemmed from His love for His Father.
- Our love for God is always demonstrated in obedience to Him
  - John 14:15 If you love me, keep my commands.
  - 1 John 5:3 In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands.
- Obedience that is pleasing to God is obedience that stems from love for Him
- Legalistic obedience without love for Him doesn't please God
  - The greatest commandments that Jesus left us with is to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves.
  - It is in loving God that we are obedient to Him, and our obedience demonstrates that we truly love Him.
- Jesus didn't only obey the Father, but was obedient to His parents as well
  - We can't say we love God but don't love others
  - 1 John 4:20-21 Whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

### 4) A boy who grew holistically

- Luke 2:52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.
- God has created to be holistic beings and intends us to grow and develop in every aspect of life
  - Grow in wisdom – not just increase of knowledge, but discerning how to apply that knowledge
  - Grow physically – take care of our physical wellbeing
  - Grow spiritually in favour with God – through the spiritual disciplines of prayer, Bible study, worship, fellowship, and outreach
  - Grow socially in favour with man – develop interpersonal skills to help build relationships with others and also to learn how to effectively minister to others