

# Jesus, part 5

## Childhood

### Opening

**Ask:**

- What is one of the best things about being your age?
- What's one of the worst things about being your age?
- Besides his birth and the wise men and shepherds visiting Him, what do we know about Jesus' childhood from the Bible?

*(It says in a summary way that he grew and it talks about when He was age 12 at the temple.)*

**Say:** Today we're going to continue to look at Jesus' life by looking at the account we have in the Bible when Jesus was twelve...

## Jesus at Age 12 - Overview & Personal Study

**Read Luke 2:41-51** (while everyone follows along in Bibles)

**Have students do the "Luke 2:41-51" HANDOUT.** Have them spend maybe 5-10 minutes to read the passage and answer the questions on their own to help them dig into what it says.

## Group Followup Discussion

**Then discuss what they came up with as a class.** Discuss one question at a time, letting one or so volunteers take turns sharing their thoughts about it and allowing others to add their thoughts...

> **For questions 1-3, just be sure students see key facts of what happened.**

> **Followup questions (and answers) that may help in discussing question 4:**

- What might be significant about what it says in verses 46-47 about Jesus and the teachers?  
*(He was talking with religious teachers, seeming to show an interest in these kinds of things. Asking questions could possibly even have the idea that he was discussing or even teaching, as that was a common method of teaching. He showed AMAZING understanding.)*
- Based on the Greek, it might be understood that Jesus said He was in His Father's house or that He was about His Father's business. Either way, what would be significant about that?  
*(He is either calling the temple His Father's house or saying He was about His Father's business. He's pretty clearly saying God is His Father.)*
- How is what Jesus did in verse 51 a good example?  
*(He is a good example of being submissive to parents.)*

# Luke 2:52

**Say:** Let's look at one more verse in this chapter - verse 52 - and think about it a little bit..

**Have someone read Luke 2:52**

**Ask:** What does this say about Jesus and what does it seem to mean?

**Be sure ideas along these lines are shared during the discussion:**

- Based on the Bible, a major Christian belief is that Jesus was born fully God and fully man.
- Since it says He grew in stature and wisdom, that could help us to see the man aspect.
- But, since we understand that Jesus was also fully God, how could He grow in wisdom and in favor with God?...
- As God, wouldn't He already have all wisdom and have as much favor as He possibly could with God the Father?...
- Perhaps it is in His human nature that He grew in wisdom and in favor with God as Jesus continued to be loving and obedient to God the Father.

**Ask:**

- How is Jesus' growing in wisdom and favor with God and man a good example for us?
- How can we grow in those ways?

## Jesus Can Relate

**Say:**

- The verses we looked at today say Jesus was 12.
- He was a baby, then grew up to be a kid, and then grew up beyond that to be a man, since it seems He was in his 30s when He died.
- Keep that in mind, and let's read one more passage that talks about Jesus...

**Read Hebrews 4:15-16**

**Ask:**

- Based on Luke, Jesus was at one time your age. And based on these verses in Hebrews, He was tempted in every respect. What does putting those things together tell us?  
(*He was a young person and knows what it is like to be tempted.*)
- How could knowing these things help you when you are tempted?
- How can that help us relate to Him as an example for us to follow?

**Say:**

- Jesus was without sin, but He is able to sympathize with our weaknesses since He was tempted too.
- It says we can go to Him in confidence to receive grace and mercy in our time of need.
- Jesus being our high priest, particularly applies to those who trust in His death on the cross to pay for sin and that He rose again...

# Invitation

## Say:

- If you haven't trusted Jesus yet as your Savior and Master, then you need to!
  - He is loving and died to pay for sin so people can be saved from sin and draw close to God.
  - The Bible says if we confess Jesus as Lord and believe that God raised Him from the dead, we will be saved.
  - And, it says if we confess our sins, He is faithful to forgive us.
  - If you have believed in Jesus, ask Him to forgive and save you.
  - Then ask him to be Master of your life - and for His help to make Him that.
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- If you have believed Jesus as your Savior from sin and your Lord for the first time today, or if you want to learn more about that, talk to me or another Christian today!

# Closing

## Say:

- If you are a Christian, thank Jesus that He can relate to you.
- And, ask God to work in to help you be like Jesus in character and grow in wisdom and favor with God and other people around you.

# Closing Prayer

## References:

Comment on Luke 2:41-52, IVP Commentary Series: Luke, accessed 11/4/2016 via  
<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/ivp-nt/Twelve-Year-Old-Jesus-Goes> and  
<https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/ivp-nt/Resolution-Jesus-Explains-His-Call>  
Matthew Henry, Comment on Luke 2:52, accessed 11/4/2016 via  
[https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/mhc/Luk/Luk\\_002.cfm?a=975052](https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/mhc/Luk/Luk_002.cfm?a=975052)

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# Luke 2:41-51

**Read Luke 2:41-52 and answer these questions based on it to help you dig in...**

1. What do the verses say about Jesus' PARENTS and what they did?
2. What do these verses say about JESUS and what He did and said?
3. What does this say about OTHER PEOPLE and their reactions?
4. What might be SIGNIFICANT about any of these things?