

The Growth of Christ – Infancy to Manhood

Luke 2:40; 51-52

There are deep mysteries as we glimpse into the first 30 years of Jesus' life. Like all men, He moved from infancy to childhood, from childhood to youth, and from youth to manhood. The wonderful fact is we all can take the same journey with the favor of God and man!"

I. Infancy to Childhood – 0-11 years

“And the child (Gk - _____) grew and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.” Luke 2:40

II. Young Adult to Manhood – 12-30 years

“⁵¹And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was _____ unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in _____ and _____, and in _____ with God and man.” Luke 2:51-52

Believer's Application:

I. Increase in Wisdom – The pursuit of wisdom needs to be the _____ of the teenage years. Prov. 4:5-9

- Wisdom is not solely the result of _____ and _____ . Prov. 8:4
- Wisdom = the _____ and _____ to base all our thoughts, actions and decisions on the principles of the _____.
- Wise Man – one who has _____ the time to learn what God wants from him and has a heart that longs to _____ and _____ the Lord.

Bible Formula for Wisdom – getting wisdom involves _____ and _____

1. Fear of the Lord - _____ and _____ of God Prov. 1:7; 9:10
2. Be _____ - We must trade in our “own” wisdom Prov. 3:7; 23:4
3. Pray for Wisdom – James 1:5 Act of _____

4. Study the _____ - 2 Tim. 2:15 “Wisdom is God’s _____ for your willingness to search and study the Scriptures.” Prov. 2:4-7
5. Receive instruction – God has commanded others to teach you _____ - public and group instruction – _____ attitude – Prov. 9:9; 21:11
6. Seek counsel - _____ instruction Prov. 19:20; 24:6 – select godly people who will give Biblical _____
7. _____ rebuke – Prov. 9:8; 25:12; 15:31 our pride hates rebuke but it is necessary
8. Seek others for God – Prov. 11:30 – When seeking souls for God the Scriptures become important.
9. Choose _____ companions – Prov. 13:20; 14:7-8 Be able to identify a foolish person and avoid them.

II. Increase in Maturity - _____ means maturity of life, mind or person. Jesus “grew up” physically, mentally, and socially

Maturity – “putting away” childish things I Cor. 13:11

- Develop Excellent _____ - Matt. 12:34; James 3:6-8; Prov. 8:6; 17:7
- Deepen your Biblical _____
 - learn to see a situation as God sees it I John 4:1
 - acquire Biblical convictions I Tim 4:12-16; II Tim 3:14-15
- Discipline your thinking – “Sober minded” - _____ thoughts 2 Cor. 10:5
 - Daydreaming vs. _____
 - Proud minded vs. _____
 - Evil vs. _____

III. Increase in Favor with God – it seems that Jesus increased in God’s favor by the _____ and _____ that pleased God. Study the Bible characters who gained God’s favor—Abraham, David, Mary, Samuel, Moses, Ruth, Esther

How to Gain Favor with God

1. Live _____ - Ps. 5:12; Prov. 14:9 this righteousness is two-fold:
 - _____ - by faith, believing and accepting the fact that Christ died on the cross for your sins - receiving Christ’s righteousness 2 Cor. 5:21
 - _____ - everyday actions and thoughts of the true believer – RIGHT is defined in God’s word not by our opinion Jug. 17:6
2. Pursuit of Wisdom – Prov. 8:35 First quality of Christ’s growth
3. Performing of good works – Prov. 11:27; 12:2 Die to self and live for others
4. Finding a good mate – Prov. 18:22 Satan is good at exploiting the weakness of youthful lusts. **“Marriage will determine to a large degree your direction and happiness!”**

IV. Increase in Favor with Man – “favor” means “_____” men both respected Jesus

and were _____ by him. We can also find this favor with man. I Tim. 4:12

Character Traits that Please God and Man

1. Excellent _____ - well spoken
2. Mature _____ - friendly
3. Selfless _____ - kind
4. Good _____ - enthusiastic
5. Sincere _____ - love God
6. Wholesome _____ - creditability

V. Subject to His Parents – Jesus humbled himself to His heavenly Father and His earthly parents. He expects no less from us and our children.

A Submissive Teenager becomes:

1. A Superior _____ - I Peter 2:13-15; Rom 13:1
2. A Superior _____ - I Peter 2:18
3. A Superior _____ - Heb. 13:7, 17
4. A Superior _____ Eph 5:22
5. A Superior _____ Matt. 23:12
6. A Superior _____ Phil 2:5-8

VI. Learned a Wage-Earning Skill –Mark 6:3; Matt. 13:55 Jesus learned a work ethic when learning from his father. As a child grows their _____ and _____ load should grow as well.

Proverbs 3:3-4

“Let not mercy and truth forsake thee; bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.”