



## Session Sixteen: Jesus Was a Boy

Today's Point: Jesus was fully man and grew physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually just like I do.

Bible Verse: Luke 2:52

CSB: And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people. Luke 2:52

KJV: And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. Luke 2:52

Today's Bible Skill:

- Begin to memorize Luke 2:52
- Be able to name and spell books are in the New Testament.

### Bible Truth Activity:

#### Materials:

Paper for scrolls – 8½ x11 (one per child)  
Dowel rod (1/4 by 12 inches) (2 per child)  
Glue  
Washable Markers/Colored pencils  
Twine/String  
Cardstock – 1-2 for each table

#### Prepare:

Glue one dowel to top edge of paper (1 per child)  
Glue one dowel rod to bottom edge of paper.  
Cut twine/string in 12" strips  
Print Luke 2:52 on cardstock (1-2 for each table)  
Print Luke 2:41-52 on 8½ x 11 paper. Prepare a scroll to use while teaching.

CSB:

<sup>41</sup> Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. <sup>42</sup> When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the festival. <sup>43</sup> After those days were over, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup> Assuming he was in the traveling party, they went a day's journey. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup> When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup> After three days, they found him in the temple sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all those who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup> When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and 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 them. “Didn’t you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father’s house?” <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand what he said to them.

### **In Favor with God and with People**

<sup>51</sup> Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother kept all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

KJV

<sup>41</sup> Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

<sup>42</sup> And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

<sup>43</sup> And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

<sup>44</sup> But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

<sup>45</sup> And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

<sup>46</sup> And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

<sup>47</sup> And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

<sup>48</sup> And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

<sup>49</sup> And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

<sup>50</sup> And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

<sup>51</sup> And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

<sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

### **Instructions:**

As kids arrive invite them to create a scroll by printing Luke 2:52 in the middle of the prepared scrolls. Once kids have written their verse, roll both sides of the paper around the dowels until they meet in the middle. Tie string/twine around the scroll to secure it.

Invite kids to join you in group time.

ASK: How many of you have had someone tell you a story about something you did or said when you were younger? (Allow 1-2 kids to share a story). I want to tell you about something that happened when Jesus was a child. This event in Jesus' life is found in Luke, Chapter 2. Invite kids to open their Bible to Luke 2 and put their index finger on verse 41. (Allow time for kids to locate Luke 2)

Open your prepared scroll and read Luke 2:41-52.

ASK: What do you think Mary and Joseph were thinking while they were looking for Jesus? (Share what you may have thought – or something like Mary may have thought: she should have been paying more attention to Jesus. Joseph may have thought Mary knew where Jesus was. They may have been scared.

What we know from what the Bible tells us is:

- Mary and Joseph were anxious to find him. (read vs. 48)
- Jesus was away from them for 3 days – (read vs. 46)

ASK: Where did Mary and Joseph find Jesus?

How did Jesus respond to his mother when she asked “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”? (Allow for 1-2 kids to respond).

Ask for a volunteer to read verse 49. Because Jesus was fully a boy and fully God's son, he was at home in the temple.

How does this story end? Jesus went with Mary and Joseph. They traveled back to Nazareth. The only other things we know about Jesus as a boy are found in verses 51-52. What do we discover in verse 51 - invite a volunteer to read verse 51. Jesus was obedient to his parents.

Let's read our verse for today – verse 52 – together. What do we learn about Jesus in this verse? He grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people. (CSB) [And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. (KJV)]

ASK: What did we discover about Jesus as a boy? Allow times for kids to respond.

Be sure their responses include – He was fully human and fully God. This means he grew up, had birthdays, learned things as child just like you do. Jesus listened carefully to the Bible teachers at the temple. He said he must be in his Father's house. Jesus was obedient to his parents. He grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and with people.

SAY: Next week we are going to look deeper into what it means to grow in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and with people.

PRAYER: Thank you, God, for this glimpse of Jesus as a boy. Help us to learn from Jesus' example by listening to your Word.

## **Bible Verse Activity: Follow the Leader – Luke 2:52**

### **Materials:**

Posterboard

Paper strips

### **Prepare:**

Write out Luke 2:52 on posterboard

Place poster where visible for kids

Write actions on paper strips.

Suggestions:

- Jumping Jacks
- Walking like a penguin
- Stand, sit, stand, sit (repeat pattern until verse is completed)
- March in a circle
- Standing on one foot
- Two steps forward, two steps backward (repeat pattern until verse is completed)
- Flapping arms like a bird
- Standing tall like a bear

Paper lunch bag

### **Instructions:**

Choose a "leader" from the group. Instruct leader to draw a piece of paper from the bag and lead the group in reciting Luke 2:52 in the way indicated on the paper.

Choose another "leader". Continue as time allows.

## **Bible Skills Activity: Spill and Spell**

### **Materials:**

Square wooden letter tiles ("Scrabble®" type tiles) [set of 100 per group]

Table where groups can work

Masking tape

Have a Books of the Bible list available for a teaching tool.

### **Prepare:**

Place tables at front of area

Pour letter tiles on table for each group

Use masking tape for a starting line

**Instructions:**

Divide kids into even groups (make groups small so they are playing more and waiting less)

Instruct groups to form single line behind masking tape

Explain that when start is called, the first member of each team will run to their set of tiles and spell out a book of the New Testament. Player will run back to team and tag next player who will do the same. Team with the most books spelled in 2 minutes wins. Cannot repeat a book. Continue to play as time allows.

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