

The Life of Christ

Lesson: He is Obedient

Lesson Text: Luke 2:22-52



When Jesus was forty days old, Joseph and Mary traveled to Jerusalem to present the baby Jesus to the Lord, and to offer a sacrifice. (Luke 2:22-24)



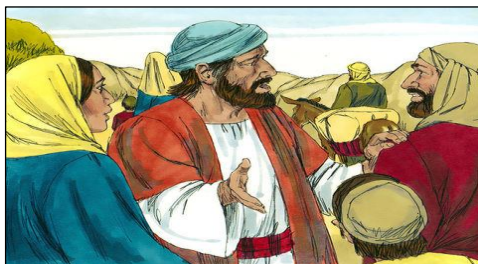
They did this according to the Law as stated in Leviticus 12:6, *“And when the days of her purifying are fulfilled, for a son, or for a daughter, she shall bring a lamb of the first year for a burnt offering, and a young pigeon, or a turtledove, for a sin offering, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest:”*

The text in Luke 2:39-40 goes on to tell us that after Joseph and Mary had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Nazareth.



Joseph and Mary were obedient according to the Law of the Lord. These were the earthly examples Jesus had as he grew up.

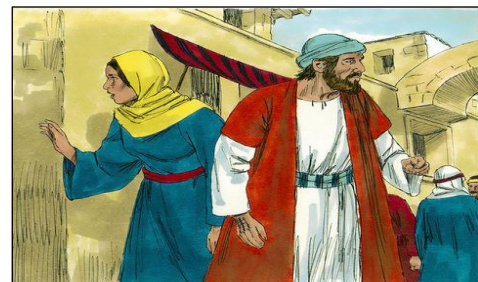
Luke 2:40 tells us that Jesus grew, not only in his body, but mainly in his spirit. He was filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon Him.



In Luke 2:41-42 we see twelve-year-old Jesus traveling to Jerusalem with his parents to attend the feast of the Passover.

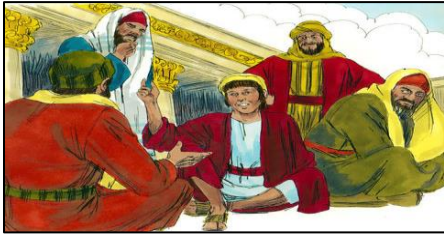
After the feast was over, Joseph and Mary started on the return trip home with the group of kinsfolk and acquaintances they traveled with.

Both Joseph and Mary assumed that Jesus was with some of the people they traveled with when they started their journey back home. They went a day's journey before they realized he was not with them.



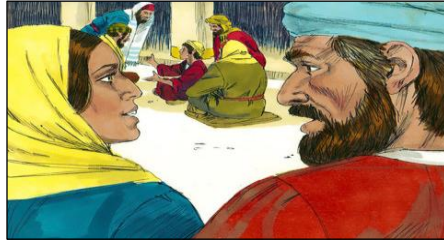
Joseph and Mary searched for Jesus and when they didn't find him, they headed back to Jerusalem to search for him.

It took them three days of searching for Jesus before they found him.



When they finally found the then twelve-year-old Jesus, he was in the temple. He wasn't only in the temple; he was also actively engaged.

He was not only listening to the doctors, but he was also asking them questions. Not as a student would ask a teacher in order to learn from them, but more as a teacher would ask students questions in order to instruct them.



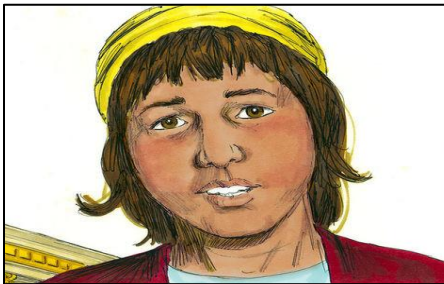
Verse 47 says, *“And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.”*

Remember, they saw a twelve-year-old boy in the temple, and they would not have expected him to be able to engage in such questions and answers.



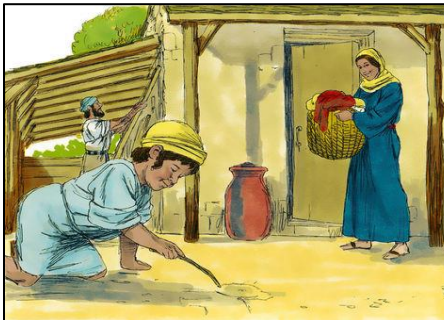
Let's continue with verses 48, *“And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.”*

Mary let Jesus know they had been worried about him even to the point of sorrow. They were scared something bad had happened to him.



He answers her in verse 49, *“And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?”*

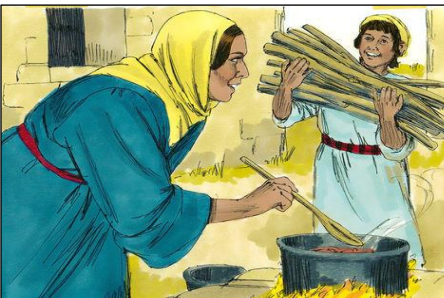
The response of Jesus was clear in letting her know that she should have known he had not been harmed. Mary knew how Jesus was conceived and should have understood that he was there to do God's will.



Verse 50 says that Joseph and Mary did not understand what Jesus meant by what he said. We are not told of any prior behaviors by Jesus that would have made them believe he was any different from other twelve-year-old boys.

Verses 51-52 tells us that he left Jerusalem with them and was subject to them.

Jesus was obedient to his earthly parents, but even more importantly he was obedient to his Heavenly Father. God's will would be done and Jesus understood that.



Jesus set an example for us that all children should follow. He was the son of God, yet he was also the son of Mary and he loved and obeyed her and Joseph and was subject to them. He behaved with respect toward them.

Let us be obedient like Christ. To God above all, then to our parents and authority figures. But always, be obedient according to God's will.

Thought Questions

1. Read the definition of obedient as taken from the © 2020 Merriam-Webster, *Incorporated*: **submissive to the restraint or command of authority: willing to obey:**
 - a. Now think about the example Jesus set for us. He obeyed God, and he also obeyed His parents.
 - b. Should you do the same?
2. Read 1 John 5:1-3. Is everyone to keep God's commandments?
3. How can we show we love God?
4. Read Ephesians 6:1-3. What is the first commandment with promise?
5. What does it mean to obey your parents in the Lord?
6. Why did Jesus show himself to be subject to his earthly parents?

Multiple Choice

1. When Jesus was forty _____ old, Joseph and Mary traveled to _____ to present the _____ Jesus to the Lord and to offer a sacrifice.
2. _____ and Mary searched for Jesus and when they didn't find him, they headed back to Jerusalem to search for him.
3. Mary and Joseph were afraid something _____ had happened to Jesus when he was missing.

True/False

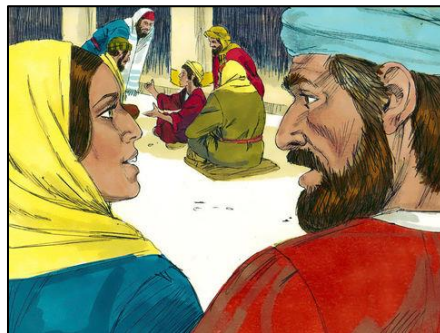
1. Joseph and Mary traveled three days before they realized Jesus wasn't with them. _____
2. Joseph and Mary searched for Jesus for three days before they found him in the temple. _____
3. Jesus was asking questions of the doctors so he could better teach them. _____
4. Jesus returned to Nazareth with Joseph and Mary and was obedient to them as he grew in wisdom and stature. _____
5. I should be obedient to my parents and follow the example of Jesus. _____

Jesus is Obedient

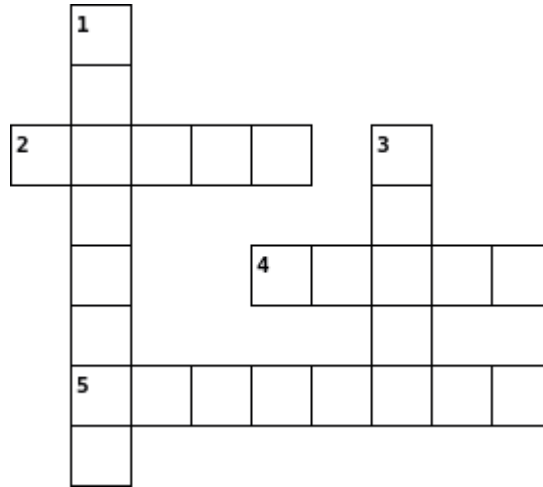
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EXAMPLE
 JERUSALEM
 TWELVE
 FATHER
 TEACHER
 FORTY
 TEMPLE
 SACRIFICE
 NAZARETH
 JESUS
 MARY
 BUSINESS
 RESPECT
 SUBJECT
 PASSOVER
 JOSEPH
 OBEY
 BABY
 AMAZED

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1533986/>



Jesus is Obedient



Across

2. Loved and obeyed his parents, but more importantly, he obeyed God
4. Days old Jesus was when presented in the temple
5. Where Jesus lived as a baby

Down

1. Joseph and Mary were this according to the law of God
3. Number of days Joseph and Mary searched for twelve-year-old Jesus

