

# THE PERSON AND LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

## Lesson Four

### *THE YOUTH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST*

Scripture reading: Luke 2:40-52

#### Burden to Impart:

This account in Luke is the unique account in the Bible about Jesus' life from His early childhood until His full manhood. Therefore the points revealed here about the Lord's growth and youth must be the single impression the Spirit wants to reveal to us. In verse 40 we see that the little child Jesus grew in an absolutely complete and balanced way. He "grew" physically, "became strong" spiritually (see Luke 1:80), and was "filled with wisdom" psychologically. Besides this, He enjoyed God sweetly within, for God's grace was upon Him.

*Luke 2:52 says that Jesus "kept advancing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men." One secret, or key, to the Lord's continual growth and development is in verse 51: the Lord was subject to His human parents. This basic lesson was what the Lord practiced in His human life for the next eighteen years, until He began His ministry. "Though He was a Son, He learned obedience (in His human life) through the things He suffered" (Heb. 5:8).*

Memory Verse: "And Jesus went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them .... And Jesus kept advancing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:51-52).

#### Facts to Teach:

1. As a child, the Lord Jesus grew and developed physically, mentally, and spiritually.
2. Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem year by year to keep the Passover feast as God had commanded His people in His law.
3. When Jesus was twelve years old He went up with His parents to Jerusalem to keep the Passover feast also. After the feast was over, when Jesus' parents returned to Nazareth, they did not notice that He was not with them. Probably hundreds of people were in the "caravan" to walk the long journey (about one hundred miles) each time they went up to Jerusalem for a festival feast.
4. After three days of searching, the Lord Jesus was found by His parents in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, hearing them and questioning them. They were all amazed at his understanding and answers.
5. When Mary asked Him why He had treated them like this, He answered "I must be in the things of My Father" (Luke 2:49), showing His care for God His Father's interests. In His humanity (as a man), He was the son of His parents, and in His deity (as God), He was the Son of God.
6. However, as a young boy He obeyed His earthly parents, going down to Nazareth with them and being subject to them. As He grew, He kept advancing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men (Luke 2:52).
7. This incident shows us that Jesus took His earthly circumstances and human relationships as part of His Father's will. He handled all of these things in a proper manner so that He could do His Father's will and work in the proper way.

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## Songs for Lesson Four

### *HIS YOUTH*

Luke 2:52; tune: "Kookaburra."

C F C  
Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature;  
F C  
Jesus grew in favor with God and men.  
F C F  
I'm growing up and you're growing up  
C F C  
And Jesus grew up, too.

*May be sung in a round: second part starts  
when first part reaches second line.*

Luke 2:40-52; tune: *Hymns*, #1069.

D G  
In Jerusalem Jesus taught the men  
E A7  
In the temple when He was only twelve,  
D G D A  
And when His family left for home,  
Bm A7 D  
He stayed behind for three whole days.

His family turned around-  
They were worried about Him.  
His family turned around-  
They were worried about Him.

Then they went to Jerusalem  
And found Him in the temple still.

Jesus went with them, and was subject to  
Their authority, as a young man should.  
His mother kept this in her heart,  
And Jesus as a young man grew.

In wisdom He advanced,  
And in stature He advanced,  
In wisdom He advanced,  
And in stature He advanced,

And Jesus kept advancing, too,  
In favor with God and men.

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## Character Lesson Four

### *OBEDIENT*

#### Definition:

To obey, to do what you are told. An obedient child does what he is told.

#### Examples :

1. An obedient child is one who buckles his seat belt the first time he is told to do so.
2. An obedient child is one who does his chores at home when his parents tell him to.
3. An obedient child is one who does his homework right away when he is told to.
4. An obedient child is one who comes into the house from playing when he is called

#### Verse:

*"The children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right."* Ephesians 6:1

**Story: Jesus obeyed His earthly parents while He was young.**

#### Song:

(Tune: "Battle Hymn of the Republic")

Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right,  
Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right,  
Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right,  
That it may be well with you.  
This commandment has a promise,  
This commandment has a promise,  
This commandment has a promise,  
That you may live long on the earth.

#### Games:

There are several games that you may use to point out this character point, this is a list of some we used:

1. "Parade of Colors" by Hap Palmer in *Learning Basic Skills Through Music*, Vol. 2 (Obtained through a teacher's supply store).
2. "Mother, May I?"
3. You may use other games that require obeying or following instructions.

[Materials needed - tape or record, tape recorder or record player, and colored pieces of paper to match colors in the song]