

Champions/Women of Destiny

LESSON 3



Jesus, The Kid...The Teen

Read: Matthew 2:13-23; Luke 2:39b-52

Many times when we think about Jesus, we see him as an adult, not as a baby (**unless it's Christmas**) or as a teenager. We sometimes forget that Jesus started out as a baby and grew up, just like we do. The Bible doesn't tell us very much about Jesus' life while he was a baby or even much about his growing up years. Have you ever wondered what He did as a child? Did He have peer pressure like you might? Was He bullied? Did His siblings like Him?

Of all the New Testament writers, Matthew and Luke are the only ones who write about the period of Jesus' life between his birth and public ministry. As was the usual custom, Jesus was circumcised and named eight days after His birth (Luke 2:21).

Simeon and Anna

In Jerusalem, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus met an old man named Simeon, to whom the Holy Spirit revealed he wouldn't die until he had seen the Messiah (Luke 2:25-26). Led into the temple by the Holy Spirit, Simeon rejoiced when he saw Jesus. The Bible says he took Him **[Jesus]** *up in his arms and blessed God* (2:28). Then he knew he could die in peace because he had seen the Messiah.



A prophetess named Anna was also in the temple that day. Anna had been married for seven years, but then was a widow for 84 years after her husband died. She spent a lot of time in the temple worshiping God through prayer and fasting. When Anna saw Jesus, she too praised God and *spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem* (Luke 2:38b).

The Wise Men's Visit

Sometime after Jesus' birth, wise men (or "Magi") – no one knows for sure how many – came from the East to Jerusalem. Looking for the "King of the Jews," the wise men appeared before King Herod. Herod was upset because he was king and had no desire to let someone take his place. He told the wise men, "*Go and search diligently for the young Child; and when you have found Him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship Him also.*" (Matt. 2:8). Of course, worshiping the rival to his throne was the last thing on Herod's mind. He quickly formulated a plan to ensure his continued reign.



After leaving Herod, the wise men followed a star shining in the East to Bethlehem *till it came and stood over where the **young Child** was...And when they were come into the house, they saw the **young child** with Mary, His mother; and fell down, and worshiped Him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, frankincense and myrrh (Matt. 2:9b, 11). Because God warned them in a dream not to return to Herod, the wise men *departed into their own country another way (2:12).**

Escape to Egypt

While Herod commanded the slaying of all children two years old and younger in the vicinity of Bethlehem (Matt. 2:16), an angel of the Lord told Joseph to *take the **young child** and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and be there until I bring you word: for Herod will seek the **young Child** to destroy Him (2:13). Joseph obeyed the angel (2:14).*

Jesus at Home

After Herod was dead, the angel of the Lord told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to Israel (Matt. 2:19-23). They settled in Nazareth where **Jesus grew up and likely learned carpentry from his step dad Joseph.**



Jesus and His Parents

When Jesus was 12 years old, Joseph and Mary took Him to Jerusalem to participate in the Passover feast. *“After the feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it (Luke 2:43). Thinking that Jesus was with other traveling friends, Mary and Joseph completed a day’s travel before discovering that Jesus was not with the caravan of people.*

Back at Jerusalem, Joseph and Mary spent three days looking and searching intently for Jesus before they found Him in the Synagogue. Jesus was at the age when most Jewish boys begin studying the Books of the Law, but He was unusually advanced for His age. *He was sitting in the midst of the Teachers, both hearing them and asking them questions. And all that heard Him were amazed at Jesus’ understanding and answers (Luke 2:46-47).*

Jesus’ parents were also amazed and upset at the same time. His mother Mary said, *“Son, why have you treated us this way? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” (vs.48) Jesus answered, “Why were you searching for me? Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” (vs.49) But Jesus’ parents did not understand what He was saying to them and they took Him back to Nazareth (vs.50-51).*

In verse 51, the Bible said that Jesus was obedient to them. He did not disrespect his parents.

Jesus Growing Up

We know very little about the period of Jesus’ life from age 12 to 30, which many scholars have termed *“the silent years.”* We do know, however, that *Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man (Luke 2:52).*

During this time scholars believe Jesus grew up with four brothers – James, Judas (Jude), Joseph, and Simon – as well as several unnamed sisters. Because Joseph is never mentioned again, many scholars believe he died while Jesus was still a young man. In this case, as firstborn, Jesus most likely assumed the responsibilities of the household. Possibly, He provided for the family through His carpentry skills, which no doubt demanded a high level of muscular development and performance. Jesus was no weakling as some artistic drawings would suggest.

Memory Verse:

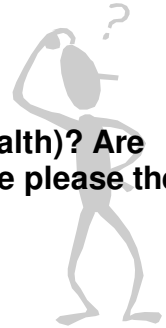
Luke 2:52- And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Think About It

Jesus Christ was once a teenager like you. His voice changed just like other boys His age. He outgrew His clothes, and maybe He even had pimples. The Bible doesn't supply many details about the young Jesus Christ, but it does tell us that He grew in wisdom (intellectually), stature (physically) in favor with God (spiritually) and man (socially) Luke 2:52.

Let's Talk About This

How are you doing? Are you growing intellectually and physically (good health)? Are you growing in favor with God (spiritually)? Does your behavior and lifestyle please the Lord and the people around you (socially)?



Let's Flesh This Out

Physical growth is a natural and expected process of human life. Growth is exciting. But if you haven't grown since you were 5 years old, something would be wrong! This principle is true spiritually as well. If you're not growing in your relationship with Jesus Christ, **something is wrong and changes are needed.**

Evaluate yourself with the statements below. Be honest. After discovering areas where you need work, confess your failure to God and begin anew today. If necessary, seek out a trusted leader or friend to whom you can become accountable. **Circle your answer:**

I study my Bible 2 Tim. 2:15

Everyday sometimes rarely never

I pray other than mealtimes 1 Thess. 5:17

Everyday sometimes rarely never

I memorize scripture Psalm 119:11

Everyday sometimes rarely never

I share the gospel with others Matt 28

Everyday sometimes rarely never

I have victory over temptation Jam 4:7

Everyday sometimes rarely never

I confess known sin to God 1 John 1:9

Everyday sometimes rarely never

I attend Church regularly Heb. 10:25

Everyday sometimes rarely never

Now watch this Supplemental Video about your lesson:

<https://youtu.be/QetW5Czec5A>

Champion/Women of Destiny

LESSON 3 Review Quiz



Click here if you are taking your quiz online, then send the email you receive to your mentor to grade and discuss: <https://forms.gle/JhwYPWi8197bKVwf6>

Student name _____
(PRINT CLEARLY)

1. True/False. According to the Bible, when Jesus was a child He struck several boys dead because they made fun of Him having a step dad.
2. Where did Jesus perform His first miracle?
3. Which New Testament writer did not write about Jesus' childhood?
A. Matthew B. John C. Luke
4. How many days after Jesus' birth was He circumcised and named?
5. To whom did the Holy Spirit reveal that he wouldn't die until he saw Jesus?
6. How many wise men came to visit Jesus?
7. How old was Jesus when Mary and Joseph took Him to Jerusalem to participate in the Passover? What was significant about His age?
8. What do scholars call the 18 years (from age 12-30) of Jesus' life not covered in Scripture?
9. According to scholars, how many brothers did Jesus have? What were their names?
10. What has been your most difficult experience growing up? How has it (the experience) helped you draw closer to the Lord?