

UNIT 6, SESSION 3

## JESUS' CHILDHOOD

LUKE 2:41-52

### KEY POINT

Jesus was a child and grew up, just like we do.

### BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Was Jesus a child too? Yes, Jesus was a child too!

### MEMORY VERSE

I have hidden Your word in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Psalm 119:11



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This week, as you guide children through the story of Jesus' childhood, take a moment to let the truth settle into your own heart: Jesus grew.

The Savior of the world didn't skip the ordinary, everyday process of maturing. He stepped fully into it. Luke 2:40 tells us He "grew and became strong; He was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on Him."

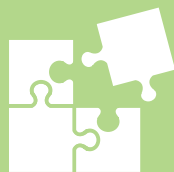
Before you teach this story, pause and reflect on the beautiful simplicity of Jesus' early life:

- 1. Jesus experienced normal family life.** He lived in a home with parents who guided Him and siblings who probably tested His patience. He ate meals, learned routines, and worked alongside His family. In your own life, where is Jesus inviting you to meet Him in the ordinary? In the routines, challenges, and simple moments that shape your days?
- 2. Jesus grew in wisdom.** He learned at synagogue. He listened. He asked questions. He studied Scripture. How is God growing you in wisdom right now? What is He teaching you through His Word, through others, or through the children you lead?
- 3. Jesus grew physically.** He rested, ate, played, and grew strong—just like the children in your class. Where might God be inviting you to slow down, rest well, or care for your own body so you can serve with strength?
- 4. Jesus grew spiritually.** He prayed, often. He loved the Father deeply and naturally. Take a moment this week to reconnect with God in prayer—not out of duty, but out of relationship.
- 5. Jesus grew socially.** He made friends and treated others with kindness. Who might God be nudging you to encourage, forgive, or bless this week?

As you teach children that Jesus grew in every way, remember you are growing too. Your leadership, your faith, and your heart for children are all being shaped by the Spirit of God!

Thank you for giving your time, care, and love to these little ones. Their growth is shaped by your faithfulness, and God sees every bit of it.

# WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

## WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

## MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star”:

I have hidden  
Your word in my heart,  
that I might not  
sin against You.  
Psalm 119:11

## THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

**Toddlers & Twos:** Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

**Threes & Fours:** Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

# CRAFT



Help children with a craft connected to the Bible lesson.

## CRAFT: GROWTH CHART

Let children color and decorate the provided growth chart. Tape the chart to a wall in your room. Measure each child's height one by one, marking their height on the chart by writing their name.

Read the chart words and verse to children. Send a rolled-up blank chart home with each child for them to do at home with their family!



# BIBLE TIME



Review the Bible lesson with your class.

## BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

When Jesus was a boy, He lived in Nazareth. One day, His family traveled to Jerusalem for a special celebration. After it was over, Mary and Joseph started going home—but Jesus wasn't with them!

They hurried back and found Him in the temple, learning and talking about God. Jesus went home with His parents and kept growing strong and wise.

## THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

When Jesus was a boy, He lived in Nazareth with his family. When He was twelve years old, He traveled with His family all the way to Jerusalem for a special celebration. It took many days to get there. Jerusalem was a big city with a big temple.

After the celebration, it was time to travel back to Nazareth. On the way back, Mary and Joseph noticed Jesus was missing. They went to check if He was playing with His cousin or friend, but He was not there. They were very worried and went back to Jerusalem to find Him.

They found Jesus still in the temple learning and speaking about the Bible. He enjoyed it so much, He was still there. The priests at the temple were amazed at His understanding.

Mary and Joseph told Jesus it was time to go home. Jesus traveled back to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph. He knew it was important to obey His parents. Mary treasured these moments in her heart. Jesus continued to grow.

## KEY POINT

Jesus was a child and grew up, just like we do.

# SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

## SNACK & DISCUSSION

**Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.**

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. Where did Jesus' parents find Him when they went looking for Him?
4. Was Jesus a child too? Yes, Jesus was a child too!

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

## BEFORE YOU GO...

**Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:**

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**