



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Luke Sermon Series

Supports Session 5: Matured

Sermon Title: "Breaking the Sound of Silence"

Passage: Luke 2:51-52

Connection to Luke 2

The family returned to Nazareth and lived a quiet life as Jesus grew and became strong with both wisdom and the favor of God (v. 40). Luke continues by informing his readers of the uniqueness of Jesus and introduces some insights into Mary, the normal human development of Jesus, the glimpse into His messianic consciousness, and His active obedience as the God-Man.

Introduction/Opening

Peter Pan never wanted to grow up. He always wanted to stay a little boy so he would not need to take on grown-up responsibilities. Growing up is part of normal human experience. We expect infants to move beyond milk and formula. We look forward to the day that children are able to do things on their own, even with the bumps and bruises they gain in the process. The Lord Jesus grew up.

The two verses we will examine come on the heels of Jesus being left behind at the temple as a twelve-year-old. He was engaged in dialogue with the religious leaders when His parents found Him. They questioned Him about what He was doing, and Jesus replied with the first recorded statement affirming His deity. Mary and Joseph did not understand His response, but they do not seem to press the issue. We then find these two verses, Luke 2:51-52, which open the door for the rest of Luke's account.

Outline

1. His Active Obedience

- a. In the conversation with Joseph and Mary, Jesus affirmed and confirmed that He was the Son of God, the Second Person of the Triune Godhead in the flesh. Now to fulfill His purpose as the God-Man, He went down to Nazareth and was obedient to His parents.
- b. According to Matt Slick, "Active obedience is Jesus' actively fulfilling all the law of God."¹
- c. Jesus' life would be marked by obedience to the will of the Father.

2. His Mother's Thoughtful Ponderings

1. Matt Slick, "Active Obedience," accessed June 16, 2020, <https://carm.org/dictionary-active-obedience>.

- a. Mary, who knew who Jesus was, still pondered over all she heard from the angels to Simeon to Jesus Himself.
- b. Perhaps she pondered over when all these things would happen. Perhaps she pondered over how all these things would happen. When would a sword pierce her own soul? When would Jesus step out and away from the home and family?
- c. At His crucifixion, we find Mary looking on (John 19) as Jesus places her in the care of John. We once again are left wondering what she pondered.

3. His Personal Growth

- a. Luke stated that Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.
- b. “Jesus grew in four dimensions, each of which is essential to a well-balanced person: (1) Wisdom goes beyond knowledge of facts to an understanding, not just of what is, but of what counts. (2) “Stature” connotes both physical stature and spiritual maturity. (3) Divine favor involves relationship with God. (4) Human favor involves relationships with other people. The fact that Jesus increased in each of these dimensions shows that he had room to grow. The church will later emphasize that Jesus was fully God and fully human. Being fully human means that Jesus began life with the limitations of an infant. He grew to become a twelve-year-old boy, and later grew some more to become a man.”²

Conclusion

“Once only is the great silence, which lies on the history of Christ’s early life, broken.”³ Peter Pan did not want to grow up. The Lord Jesus grew, and in adulthood took on the responsibility assigned to Him in eternity past and revealed in time to Joseph: “He shall save His people from their sins.” Luke revealed this awareness of Jesus to His unique relationship to the Father. He knew He was the Son of God with a distinctive calling. His allegiance was to His Father. He was obedient to Joseph and Mary because of His higher allegiance. The question then is how does one deal with who Jesus is?

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2. Richard Niell Donovan, “Biblical Commentary (Bible Study) Luke 2: 41-52,” 2012, accessed June 16, 2020, <https://sermonwriter.com/biblical-commentary/luke-241-52/>.

3. Edersheim, *Life and Times*, 1:235.