

I. Where can we get wisdom?

II. Light on this passage

- A. End of the “Birth narratives”
- B. significance of verses 40, 52: parallel with 1:80, Old Testament (Genesis 21:8; Judges 13:24; 1 Samuel 2:21, 26)
- C. Mary’s reactions
- D. Paints a picture of Jesus’ home
- E. Transition to adulthood: around age 12

III. A wise King

- A. Jesus “grew in wisdom” (verses 40, 52) – how is that possible?!
- B. What is wisdom? the ability to judge actions and attitudes rightly
 - i. an ability needed in order to rule
 - ii. starts with judging your own actions and attitudes
- C. Where does wisdom come from?
- D. Jesus among the teachers (rabbis)
- E. The promised wise ruler (Isaiah 11:1-4; Psalm 119:99)
- F. We are to seek wisdom like Jesus!
 - i. seek wisdom from others: listen, ask, answer
 - ii. seek wisdom at its source (Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 9:10; see Proverbs 1:9)

IV. The obedient Son

- A. Seems to be ditching His parents – what is going on?
- B. Jesus must be in His Father’s house!
- C. Loyalty to God trumps loyalty to family
- D. We’re all pious – we all have loyalties that are supreme in our lives
- E. Almost every loyalty or piety has something good in it. But they can blind you.
- F. Getting family right

V. Piety isn’t enough

- A. For some, life is made up of disconnected parts: work, family, extended family, recreation all happen in different cities, states, even countries. For others, these are seamless and local.
- B. We all tend to latch onto something as our standard.
- C. Jesus shows us that it is *not* enough to be good and loyal.
- D. We’re helpless – to be good enough, or to stop trying to be good enough.
- E. We need not only teaching and example, we need redemption.