



# Saving the Souls of Our Sons and Daughters

## Lesson Eight: Conclusion

# Saving the Souls of Our Sons and Daughters

- Tragically, most Christians have never introduced a single person to Jesus Christ. There are three principal reasons for this:
  - Living a spiritually impotent, worldly, materialistic life; not walking in the word of God, does not depend on its power
  - Afraid to risk asking another to obey the Gospel
  - A lack of training

# Saving the Souls of Our Sons and Daughters

- How to prepare yourself to ask your children to obey the Gospel:
  - Recognize and acknowledge their maturity and accountability
  - Be Interested and listen respectfully to what they have to say about what they believe and where they are in the faith
  - Accept the differences between you that have no impact on fellowship.
  - Don't make assumptions about your children, and avoid preconceived notions about them based on their age
  - Share more meaningful conversations with them about their life, your life, and your faith.

# Saving the Souls of Our Sons and Daughters

- Questions to ask your children
  - What did you learn from the service (lesson, class, singing) today?
  - Do you see yourself becoming a Christian in the future?
  - What have done to prepare for that wonderful goal?
  - What do you believe you need to do before you are ready to obey the Gospel?
  - What can I do to help you to get there?
  - Can I take you to talk with the preacher, your teacher, or one of the elders about this?

# Saving the Souls of Our Sons and Daughters

- Luke 2:39-52
- WWJD: What Would Jesus Do?
  - Subjective and self-serving; based on the individual judgment
- It should be WDJD - What Did Jesus Do?
  - Objective and God-serving; based on what is written about Jesus
- Jesus Is an example to youth

# Jesus Set The Example Of A Pure And Healthy Lifestyle

- Jesus, like all infants at birth, was in need of a mother
  - Luke 2:6-7, 22 - “So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn... 22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord”

# Jesus Set The Example Of A Pure And Healthy Lifestyle

- As He grew, He did chores and played games with His younger brothers and sisters and neighborhood children
  - Mark 6:3 - “Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?”
  - Matt. 11:16-17 - “But to what shall I liken this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their companions, 17 and saying: 'We played the flute for you, And you did not dance; We mourned to you, And you did not lament.’”

# Jesus Set The Example Of A Pure And Healthy Lifestyle

- It is difficult for some to think of Jesus as an ordinary child, but that's exactly what He was
  - Isa. 7:14-15 - “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. 15 Curds and honey He shall eat, that He may know to refuse the evil and choose the good.”
  - Heb. 2:17 - “Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren...”



# Jesus Set The Example Of A Pure And Healthy Lifestyle

- Jesus “grew” and “increased” in stature - Luke 2:40, 52
- He did not engage in questionable, self-destructive, selfish, or sinful activities, but instead matured into a strong, healthy young man

# Jesus Set The Example Of Obedience To Parents

- Jesus obeyed His parents
  - Luke 2:51 - “Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them”
- He kept the fifth commandment
  - Ex. 20:12 - “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.”
- It is called the first commandment with promise
  - Eph. 6:2 - “Honor your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise”

## Jesus Set The Example Of Obedience To Parents

- Jesus demonstrated that the lessons that come from obeying your parents prepares your heart to obey God
  - John 8:29 - “And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.”
  - Luke 2:52 - “And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”

# Jesus Observed The Laws And Customs Of His People

- His parents had him circumcised - Luke 2:21
- He went up to the Temple upon His parents' instructions - John 7:14
- He kept the traditions of the people - Matt. 17:24-27
- He respected the authority of the government - Matt. 22:21

# Jesus Observed The Laws And Customs Of His People

- People, young and old, are either respected or disliked in a community based on their regard for what is right
  - Prov. 12:8 - “A man will be commended according to his wisdom, But he who is of a perverse heart will be despised.”

# Jesus Is The Example Of Faithful Worship Of God

- Jesus was taken to worship God from the beginning of His life, before he was able to decide for Himself.
  - On the eighth day he was circumcised - Luke 2:21
  - On the 40th day, His parents presented Him in the Temple - Luke 2:23; Lev. 12:2-3, 8
  - He was taught the practice of weekly attendance and participation at the synagogue - Luke 4:16
  - His parents took Him to the religious feasts from His youth - Luke 2:42

# Jesus Is The Example Of Faithful Worship Of God

- Jesus understood the spiritual implications of serving God - Luke 2:49
- Many attend worship for social, political, and even personal reasons - Matt. 6:1-18, 23:57
- Jesus showed us that worship is about God, not us - Luke. 2:49
- Jesus worshiped in spirit and in truth - John 4:24

# Jesus Is The Example Of Faithful Worship Of God

- The habit of worship is best developed in youth
  - Ecc. 11:9 - 12:1 - “Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment. 10 Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, And put away evil from your flesh, For childhood and youth are vanity. 12:1 Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, I have no pleasure in them”



# Jesus Is The Example Of Faithful Worship Of God

- Prov. 22:6 - “Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.”
- Luke 18:21 - “And he said, All these things I have kept from my youth.”
- Acts 26:4 - “My manner of life from my youth, which was spent from the beginning among my own nation at Jerusalem, all the Jews know.”
- Psalms 71:5 - “For You are my hope, O Lord GOD; You are my trust from my youth”

# Jesus Is The Example Of Faithful Worship Of God

- The habit of attending worship services is directly attributable to the influence of parents
  - 2Tim. 1:5 - “When I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.”
  - 2Tim. 3:14 - “But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”

# Jesus Is The Example Of Faithful Worship Of God

- The habit of attending worship services is directly attributable to the influence of parents
  - 1Sam. 1:19-29 - “So it came to pass in the process of time that Hannah conceived and bore a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked for him from the LORD. 21 Now the man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and his vow. 22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, Not until the child is weaned; then I will take him, that he may appear before the LORD and remain there forever”

# Jesus Set The Example Of Bible Study

- Spiritual growth comes by study of the Word - 1Peter 2:2
- Jesus studied - Luke 2:46-47
- Jesus read the Bible - Luke 4:16
- Jesus prioritized His life in order to have time to study. He learned a trade (Mark 6:3); however, it did not take precedence over His Bible study.
- Young people can make the same choices - Matt. 6:33; 2Tim. 3:15

# Jesus Set The Example Of Bible Study

- Jesus sought heavenly things first
  - Jesus wanted what His Father wanted first - Luke 2:46
  - By learning this lesson early, Jesus prepared His heart to do the difficult things that the Father would require later - Matt. 26:39, 42

# Jesus Set The Example Of Bible Study

- Jesus made a conscious decision not to sin - 1Peter 2:21-22; Heb. 7:26-27
- He made this decision in youth - 2Tim. 2:22; Isa. 7:15-16; Psalms 25:7
- Young people can resolve to follow the example of Jesus in choosing not to sin - Dan. 1:8; 1Cor. 10:13, 15:34

# Jesus Set The Example For Youth

- You will never make a more meaningful decision, a more important choice in your life, than do obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- You have no reason strong enough, no goal worthy enough, no person important enough, and no activity noble enough to turn away from the call of Jesus Christ for you to be baptized.
- You have everything to gain and nothing important to lose.