

KEY VERSE: [Jesus' parents] found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (Luke 2:46)

Questions Are Good!

Lesson Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7; Luke 2:39-52

God's Word

1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.

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7 a time to tear, and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak.

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39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. **40** And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. **41** Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. **42** When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. **43** After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. **44** Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. **45** When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. **46** After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. **47** Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. **48** When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." **49** "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" **50** But they did not understand what he was saying to them. **51** Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. **52** And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

Bible Story

Questions Are Good!

**Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7;
Luke 2:39-52**

In today's Scripture text, we are reminded that there is a time and season for everything—even a time to be silent and a time to speak.

Each year, Jesus' parents travelled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. One year, when Jesus was twelve years old, after Joseph and Mary had finished all that was required by the Law, they prepared to start their journey back home to Nazareth where Jesus had grown up—becoming strong and full of wisdom. God's blessings were upon Him. As the Festival ended, they left for Nazareth—but Jesus stayed in Jerusalem. Not knowing this, His parents thought that He was with them, somewhere among relatives who were fellow travellers. They had travelled an entire day before they missed Him. They looked for Him but could not find Him. So, they headed back to Jerusalem to look for Him.

After three days, they found Jesus in the Temple. He was listening to the Jewish teachers and asking questions. He amazed everyone with His answers and understanding. Even His parents were amazed. "Son, why have You had us looking for You? We've been worried," His mother said. Jesus answered them, "Why were you looking for Me? You should have known that I would be in My Father's house." But they did not understand His answer.

So, Jesus went with His parents back to Nazareth, where He was obedient to them. His mother treasured this. Jesus grew in body and wisdom, gaining favor with God and people.

I Have a Question (Part 1)

Nathan was spending the weekend with his Uncle Ronnie. As was tradition, they were going to spend time fishing on Lake Monticello. There were lots of people on the lake. They found their usual spot and were having a great time on the lake. The fish were biting, and Nathan was talking Uncle Ronnie's head off. Nathan's stomach began growling.

Uncle Ronnie playfully leaned over and said, "Sounds like it's about lunchtime."

"I *am* a little hungry," Nathan responded.

"Lunch is in the truck. Let's go get the cooler and come back to see if we have caught anything," Uncle Ronnie suggested.

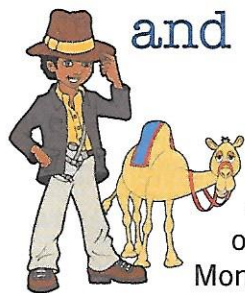
Nathan ran up the hill in front of Uncle Ronnie. They grabbed the cooler. While walking back down the path, Nathan noticed Mr. Otis and Pastor Tucker fishing.

Nathan yelled, "Hey, Uncle Ronnie! Pastor Tucker is over here fishing."

"Hey, Pastor Tucker! Are you all catching anything here?" Nathan asked.

"No, Nathan. Have *you* caught anything?" Pastor Tucker inquired.

Exploring the Story with **Nicholas** and **Cornelius**



Hello! Nicholas and Cornelius here! It's always great to go on an adventure. Nathan went on a fishing adventure at Lake Monticello. Like Jesus and His parents, Uncle Ronnie and Nathan took this trip each year. While it was a normal fishing trip, whom did they see on their trip?

I Have a Question (Part 2)

"Yes! A huge catfish! I know a lot about fishing and the types of fish in the lake," Nathan explained.

"I love coming here with Nathan. He knows a lot about the lake," Uncle Ronnie added.

While Pastor Tucker and Mr. Otis were enjoying talking with Nathan, Uncle Ronnie soon said, "Nathan, we've bothered them long enough."

"We're enjoying Nathan. Come over and join us," Mr. Otis said.

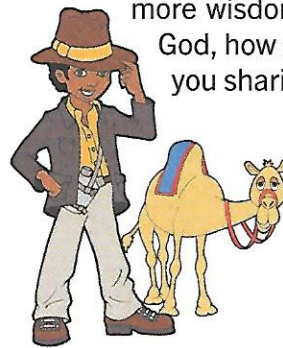
"I've got a question," Nathan began. "Why don't we all have lunch together? Do you have your lunch, Pastor?"

"Yes, I do, Nathan. Join us. We need to learn more about fishing. We haven't caught anything," Pastor added.

Pastor Tucker and Mr. Otis enjoyed their time with Nathan. Uncle Ronnie was amazed at how much Nathan knew and understood.

Exploring the Story with **Nicholas** and **Cornelius**

Pastor Tucker was amazed at how much Nathan knew about fishing and the lake. What does today's lesson teach us about young people's having wisdom and understanding? How can we help others realize that young people do have godly wisdom? How can we demonstrate our godly wisdom? Are you willing to ask questions to gain more wisdom? As you learn more about God, how are you sharing it? Where are you sharing your wisdom?



Choose the Right Words

Circle the correct word(s) in each sentence related to today's lesson that make(s) the statement true.

1. There is a time and (**season** / place) for everything, even to (yell / **be silent**) and to speak.
2. Jesus (**grew** / looked) up, becoming (**strong** / weak) and full of wisdom. God's blessings were upon Him.
3. When Jesus was (**twelve** / thirty) years old, as the Festival ended, His parents left for Nazareth, but Jesus (**stayed** / played) in Jerusalem.
4. He was (**listening to** / ignoring) the Jewish teachers and asking questions.
5. His parents were (**amazed** / confused). "Son, why have You had us looking for You? We've been (**worried** / bored)," His mother said.
6. Jesus answered them, "Why were you (**looking for** / ignoring) Me? You should have known that I would be in My Father's (**house** / store)."