

How Jesus Grew Up

“And Jesus increased in wisdom, and stature, and in favor with God and man” Luke 2:52

When I was a young boy I used to see advertisements about *Wonder Bread*, which reportedly helped “you build strong bodies 12 different ways!” The ads never told how it actually helped your body grow or what these twelve ways were.

As a child, **Jesus Christ grew four ways**: mentally, physically, socially, and spiritually. I especially want the children to consider how Jesus Christ grew as a boy.

First, He increased in wisdom or **mentally**. There are many, many things you must learn. Put all your effort into learning. Study hard. Wisdom is not only knowing facts, it is the right and true use of knowledge, and that begins with the fear of God (Proverbs 9:10).

Second, Jesus grew in stature or **physically**. Be sure to eat nutritious food thankfully. Get lots of exercise (chores are an excellent means of exercise) and sufficient rest.

Third, He grew in favour with God or **spiritually**. We grow spiritually as we learn of God from His word. Read the Bible carefully every day. Go to church every time there is a service. Memorize Scripture verses regularly. Develop a prayer life – talking to God just like you would talk to your parents. Further, learn to live by faith – taking God at His word and trusting Him to do great and mighty things.

Lastly, he increased in favour with man or **socially**. The thing that brings you the most favour is good character. Honesty, sincerity, diligence, faithfulness, obedience, thankfulness, responsibility, and humility are some important character traits. Also learn how to be a true friend and how to choose good friends.

Boys and girls, my desire is that you will be like Jesus as you grow up. We are told He “grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him” (Luke 2:40).

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