

Lesson V.

GROWING STRONGER

August 4, 1918

Luke 2 : 42-52 ; 2 Peter 1 : 5-8. *Scripture Memory Verse, John 6 : 11.

Golden Text—The path of the righteous is as the dawning light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.—Proverbs 4 : 18 (Rev. Ver.).



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42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jeru'salem after the custom of the feast.

43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Je'sus tarried behind in Jeru'salem; and Jo'seph and his mother knew not of it.

44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jeru'salem, seeking him.

46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52 And Je'sus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

2 Peter 1 : 5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Je'sus Christ.

THE LESSON RETOLD

A story about a boy! What could be nicer than that! And such a wonderful boy he was! Although he looked like other boys, I am sure when this story is finished you will say you never heard of another boy like him.

Jesus was twelve years of age. It was the time of the Passover Feast, and all the families in the village of Nazareth where Jesus lived were going up to Jerusalem to worship in the temple.

At last they arrived at Jerusalem, and they saw and heard all the wonderful things they had been thinking about. They heard the wonderful story about the way in which God had brought his people out of the land of Egypt long, long ago, when they were slaves to the cruel king Pharaoh. God caused the death angel to pass over their homes and to take the eldest child in each of the homes of

the Egyptians as a punishment upon the king and his people. God's people of Israel kept this Passover Feast every year to thank God for his goodness to them.

The last day of the Passover Feast had come, and the people all started back to their homes. The children were away ahead, laughing and talking about all they had seen and heard. Mary and Joseph supposed that the boy Jesus was with the others. But when night came and they gathered around the tents, he was no place to be seen. They searched everywhere but could not find him. So Mary and Joseph started away back to the city to find him, and where do you think they found him? Our picture shows us. It was in the temple. There Jesus was sitting in the midst of the wise teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And these wise men

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