LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

DECEMBER 27, 2020
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• The Wonder Years -- Ages 1-12 -- Are Very Important

• Much Of A Child's Development Happens In Years 1-12.

• It Continues Through Youth And Early Adulthood.

• Jesus Heart For The Things Of God Began In His Wonder Years
Jesus Is dedicated to the Lord

• We Need To Dedicate Our Kids To The Lord

• Luke 2:21–24 (NIV84) — 21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived. 22 When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), 24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”
The Coming Of Jesus Is An Answer To Prayer

• Don’t Give Up Praying About Long Sought Answers To Prayer

• READ: Luke 2:25–38

• Jesus Is Still The Answer To Our Prayers
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• *Jesus was a child who grew up*

• *We Need To Believe That Our Children Will Grow Up In God*

• **Luke 2:39–40 (NIV84)** — 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 upon him.

• **Absolute deity. Absolute humanity.**
Jesus Had A Heart For The Things Of God Which Began In His Childhood & Carried On Thru His Youth

• The Lesson For Us: Do All You Can To Motivate & Grow You Ones In Godly Living & Truth

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• They Found Jesus At The Temple
• His Parents Were “Astonished”
• Jesus Had A Response To His Astonished Parents:
• Luke 2:49–51 (NIV84) — 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.
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• Don’t despise the hunger for God among the young.
• Encourage it. -- These are their formative years.

• A large majority of Christians accept Jesus Christ as their Savior before they reach the age of 18 -- We can’t afford to look down on them, or overlook them

• Source: Barna Research Group
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• Matthew 18:6 (NIV84) — 6 But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

• A 2021 Challenge: Find A Way To Minister To, Support, Give, Pray For, Encourage The Young

• If You Have The Chief Place Of Influence Among Young People Or Children Use It For Good
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• Jesus said “Let The Little Children Come Unto Me”
• Parents: Bring Your Kids To Jesus For His Touch
• Be Persistent : The Touch Of Jesus On Their Lives Is Crucial
• Go Beyond The Obstacle And Let Jesus Touch Your Children
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• Are These Things You Want For Your Young People?

• Proverbs 1:1–7 (NIV84) — 1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2 for attaining wisdom and discipline; for understanding words of insight; 3 for acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair; 4 for giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young— 5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance— 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.
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• Proverbs 3:1–4 (NIV84) — 1 My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, 2 for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity. 3 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. 4 Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

• Are These Things You Want For Your Young People?
• If So -- You Must Make Them A Priority.
• Get Your Kids Into The Word-- Teach Them The Proverbs
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• Don’t Despise Godly Life Principles In Children

• These (Wonder years) Are Their Formative Years
• What They Do Now -- Will Shape Their Future

• Children Are Not The Best Judges Of What Is Good, Better, And Best -- You Are.
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

Get A Vision Of Your Child’s Spiritual Growth: Every Child Must Be:

- Powerful in Prayer
- Baptized in the Holy Spirit
- Radical in Worship
- Mobilized in Service
- Sacrificial in Giving
- Active in Evangelism
- Knowledgeable in God’s Word
- Baptized in Water
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• No Church – Family – or Christian Adult Can Be Regarded As Being In A Healthy State Which Neglects Its Younger Members

• Revivals And Moves Of God Often Start Among Those Young Enough In Their Thinking To Be Changed And Flexible
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

- God Commands Us To “Teach The Children.” He Commands Us To Impress His Word Into The Soft Clay Of Their Lives:
  - He Wants Us To Do It Continually.
  - He Wants Us To Do It Creatively
  - He Wants Us To Do It Deliberately And Systematically
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• Luke 2:51–52 (NIV84) — 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 men.

• The Result Of Christ’s Heart For God In His Wonder Years Is: He Grew In:
  • Wisdom that is the use of knowledge & experience with common sense & insight
  • Stature – He became strengthen with a vigorous lifestyle physically
  • Favor with God – God’s grace was on Him
  • Favor with Man – people had a favorable attitude and were pleased with Him
LESSONS FROM THE WONDER YEARS OF JESUS

• Christ-Like Ideals For The New Year:
  • Bless A Child
  • Train Up A Child
  • Be Like A Child
    • Trust Over Worry
    • Enjoyment Over Explanations
    • Lean On Your Father He Has The Power To Help