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Family Dynamics

Key References: Luke 2:51, 52; Isaiah 53:7-12; *The Desire of Ages*, chap. 7, pp. 68-74; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 7, pp. 63-73; Our Beliefs nos. 22, 4, 9



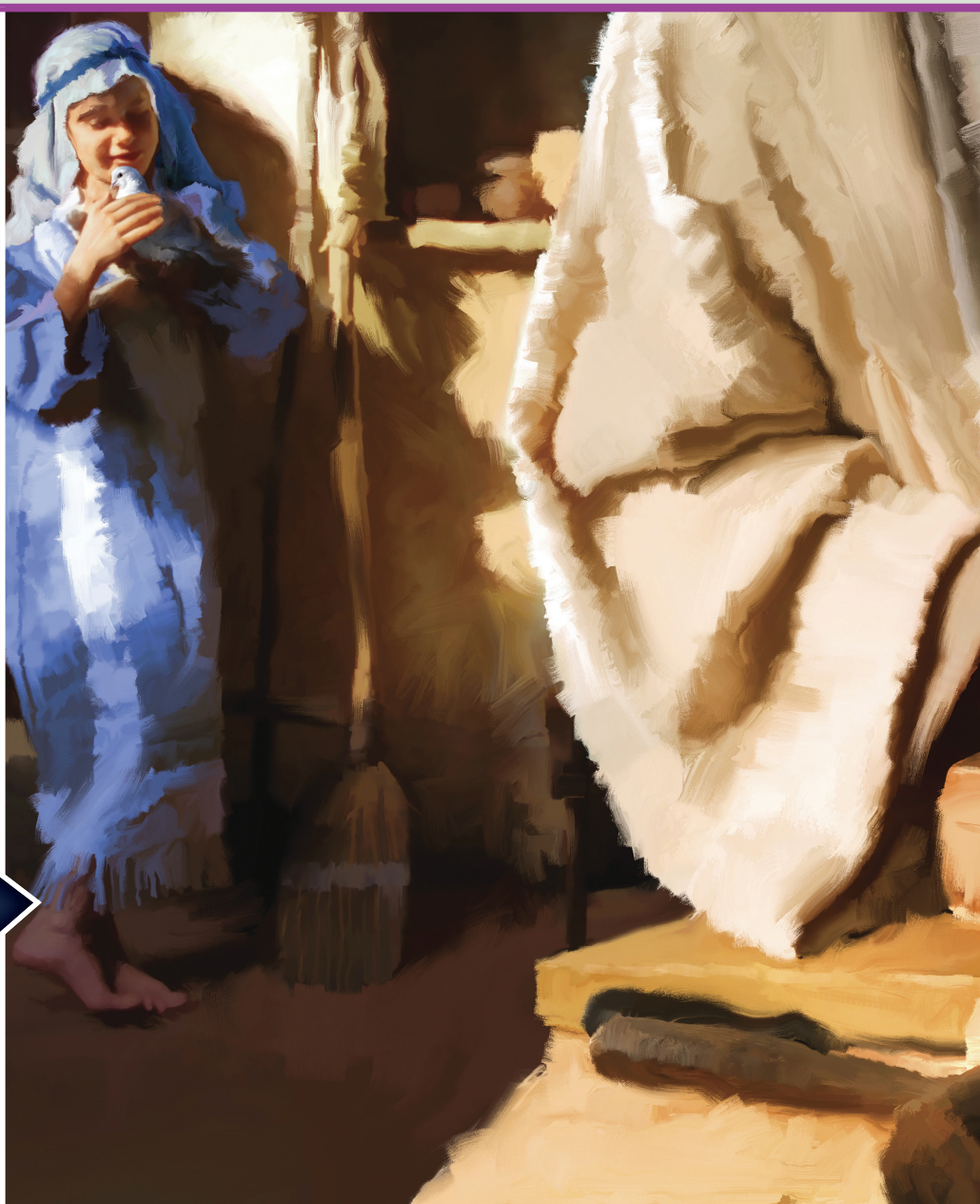












Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 18.

powertext

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52).

powerpoint

We honor God when we obey Him.

Take a careful look at a piece of furniture in your home, perhaps a chair you find comfortable. Examine how the different pieces fit together. What did the builder of this piece of furniture have to know? What tools do you think the builder used? Now imagine Jesus in the carpenter shop learning how to be the best carpenter possible.

The fragrance of green wood, like evergreen trees, was the first greeting a customer received at the local carpenter's shop. The carpenter stood in the back corner, a piece of charcoal behind his ear. He measured carefully before skillfully fitting the top of a table to the legs, pounding wooden pegs into the holes to hold it together. With a low whistle, the man smiled and stood back to admire his work: smooth grain and perfectly matched, corners meeting exactly, all legs evenly balanced. Meanwhile, his youngest Son hurried forward with a smile of His own to greet a customer.

It was always that way in this shop. The owner was an honest man who built everything with the care he would take if it were for himself. If you asked for cedar, you got cedar, not some other wood the



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Sunday

READ Read Mark 3:33, 34 and this week's lesson, "Family Dynamics."

LEARN On a narrow piece of paper, draw a familiar carpenter's tool, such as a hammer or saw. Cut it out. Write the power text on it, including the reference, and place it where you will see it often.

DO Plan practical ways you could honor God this week.

REVIEW Review the power text, Luke 2:52.

PRAY Pray for opportunities to follow Jesus' example in honoring God and reflecting His love to others.

Monday

READ Read Colossians 3:12.

THINK What are the characteristics of God's chosen people, who worship and honor Him?

DO Help a friend or someone close to you to understand what it means to honor God by doing your best.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to build your faith in Him.

Tuesday

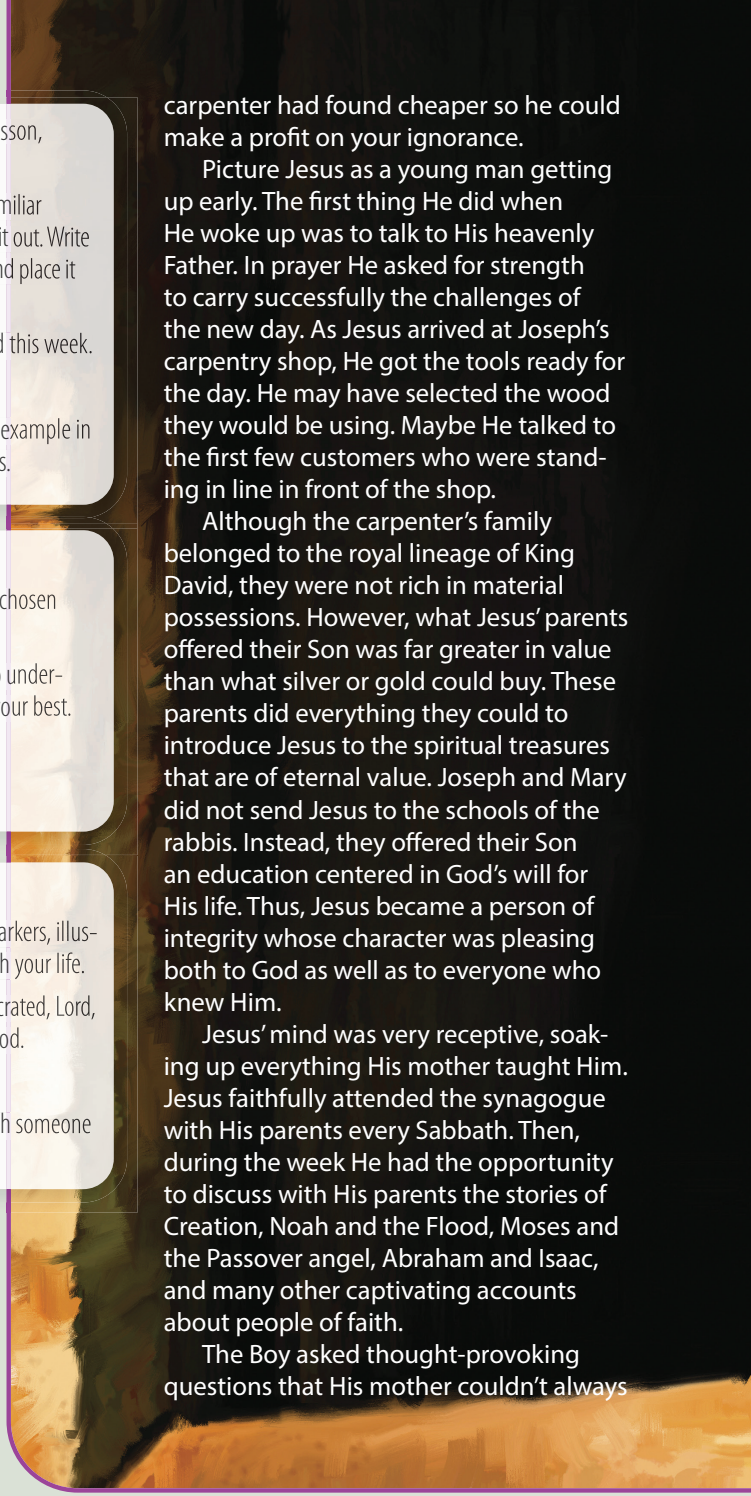
READ Read Colossians 2:6, 7.

ILLUSTRATE With pencil, crayon, paint, or markers, illustrate what it means to you to honor Jesus with your life.

SING Sing "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee" or another song of commitment to God.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray that you will come in contact with someone who needs to know about God's love.



carpenter had found cheaper so he could make a profit on your ignorance.

Picture Jesus as a young man getting up early. The first thing He did when He woke up was to talk to His heavenly Father. In prayer He asked for strength to carry successfully the challenges of the new day. As Jesus arrived at Joseph's carpentry shop, He got the tools ready for the day. He may have selected the wood they would be using. Maybe He talked to the first few customers who were standing in line in front of the shop.

Although the carpenter's family belonged to the royal lineage of King David, they were not rich in material possessions. However, what Jesus' parents offered their Son was far greater in value than what silver or gold could buy. These parents did everything they could to introduce Jesus to the spiritual treasures that are of eternal value. Joseph and Mary did not send Jesus to the schools of the rabbis. Instead, they offered their Son an education centered in God's will for His life. Thus, Jesus became a person of integrity whose character was pleasing both to God as well as to everyone who knew Him.

Jesus' mind was very receptive, soaking up everything His mother taught Him. Jesus faithfully attended the synagogue with His parents every Sabbath. Then, during the week He had the opportunity to discuss with His parents the stories of Creation, Noah and the Flood, Moses and the Passover angel, Abraham and Isaac, and many other captivating accounts about people of faith.

The Boy asked thought-provoking questions that His mother couldn't always

answer. Mary answered Him according to her understanding of the Scriptures. The great day would come when Jesus would turn 12. Then the family would travel to the temple in Jerusalem, and Jesus could address His difficult questions to the religious teachers there.

Mary treasured in her heart the memory of the events that preceded and followed the miraculous birth of her Son. These stories included personal visits of angels and shepherds and rich kings following a star—evidence of God's guidance in their lives.

Jesus' mother told Him of His divine origins as announced to her by Angel



Wednesday

READ Read Romans 15:1, 2: "We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up."

WRITE In your Bible study journal* write ways you could honor God by following the advice given in these verses.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Pray for patience and understanding toward others as you seek to honor God in everything you do.

Thursday

READ Read Luke 2:21-52.

WRITE What are the ways in which Jesus "grew" or "increased" (see Luke 2:51, 52)? Write in your own words what each means.

HELP Decide on ways you will do your best today.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you grow spiritually as you seek to please Him and share His love with others.

Friday

READ Read Luke 2:51, 52.

REPEAT Repeat the power text by memory.

SHARE Together with your family express your gratitude to God by sharing your experiences of how the Lord has blessed you.

PRAISE Sing several praise songs for family worship.

PRAY Ask God to help you honor Him in your relationships with others and in everything you do.

*NOTE: Your Bible study journal is found at the back of your PowerPoints Bible study guide. If you need additional space, use a notebook or open a special file on your computer. Writing out your thoughts and ideas every time you study the Bible helps you gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.

Gabriel. As He read from the Scriptures the prophecies about the coming of the Messiah, Jesus must have paid special attention, thinking of how He Himself is the fulfillment of these prophecies.

Carefully this gentle mother did her best to raise the Son of God. She quietly cherished the knowledge that He was the Messiah everyone was looking for, the future King of kings and Lord of lords. But this truth was kept by Jesus' family until just the right time. God would choose the time and the way to impress hearts about this great truth.

Until then, the best way for the Son of God to learn how to be a good king was to live like the common people did, so He could understand the challenges that everyone faced.

The Boy Jesus honored God and had a strong relationship with His heavenly Father. He was an obedient Son to His parents, a good student, and a kind young man to everyone He encountered. He not only had friends His own age, but even the grown-ups in the town loved Him. Can you guess why? Because He treated everyone with respect. He treated others as He would want to be treated—the same way His earthly father treated his customers in the carpenter shop.



PUZZLE 1

THE LORD REIGNS

Instructions: Below is a quote from Ellen White. All the letters in the quote can be found in the 1 through 4 word list. The first word is done for you. Figure out the words in the list and place the letters in the quote.

1.	P U L A S 15 4 16 13 3	BASIC UNIT OF CURRENCY IN BOTSWANA
2.	___ ___ 8 12	ANIMAL FOR PULLING BURDENS
3.	___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ 14 6 5 9 7 17	USING SOMETHING THE WRONG WAY
4.	___ ___ ___ ___ 1 11 2 10	MOCK; TAUNT

Ellen White quote:

___ ___ ___ ___ ___
1 2 3 4 5

___ ___ ___ ___ ___
6 7 8 9 10

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___
11 12 13 14 15 16 17

A HOUSE OF PRAYER

1	2	3
SCA	CIP	ONY
AUT	ERE	PED
DIS	TTE	ING
EXC	TIM	GED
JER	EMB	URE
BEL	SHI	DGE
RES	HOR	TED
KNO	USA	RED
REM	IEV	NCE
SOR	PEC	LEM
REV	HAN	ERS
WOR	IPT	ITY
TES	WLE	LES

Instructions: Take a set of letters from column 1, then column 2, then column 3 to find the nine-letter answer to each clue. When you have finished, the leftover sets of letters will spell out the answer to this week's puzzle. Answers to the clues are in John 2. Some of the answers may be forms of the word.

1. Jesus' twelve helpers (verse 12).

Answer: __ __ __ C __ __ __ __ __

2. The Bible word (verse 22).

Answer: S_C_R_I_P_T_U_R_E_

3. Spoken evidence, witness (verse 25).

Answer: T __ __ __ __ M __ __ __

4. Accepting the truth (verse 22).

Answer: B __ __ __ __ V __ __ G

5. Thinks about memories (verse 17).

Answer: __ __ M __ __ B __ __ __

6. Spread around, dispersed (verse 15).

Answer: __ C __ __ __ __ R __ __

7. Honor, respect (in church).

Answer: __ __ V __ __ __ __ C __

8. Information known.

Answer: __ __ O __ __ __ __ G __

9. Praised God on Sabbath.

Answer: __ O __ __ H __ __ __ __

10. Sold or swapped (verse 14). Answer: __ X __ __ __ __ G __ __

11. Being in charge (verse 18). Answer: __ U __ __ __ __ __ __ Y

12. City Jesus went to (verse 13). Answer: J __ __ __ __ A __ __ __

Answer: Jesus wished people had __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ the temple as God's house.