

# ***Who Am I?***

## ***Unlocking and Understanding the Mystery of Christ***

**Week Three**

**Day Four**

### **WELL-SPENT YOUTH**

“Why were you searching for Me?” He asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” But they (Mary and Joseph) did not understand what He was saying to them.’ (Luke 2:49-50)



*Unlocking the Mystery*

Jesus came to earth for such a short time in the full scheme of things. What a mystery to think about; He was only 33 when He died and He only ministered for three short years. This mystery is outlined in the first four books of the New Testament called THE GOSPELS. They tell of the life of Jesus as He lived here on earth. We will be tracing many of Jesus’ steps through these books, so I thought it only appropriate to give attention to these special books of the Bible. Each Gospel was written with a different group of people in mind by a person that either witnessed the life of Jesus or was very closely associated with an eye witness, so some stories overlap and some are told in different order or even omitted. There is very little Scripture that tells of Jesus’ childhood, but after today’s lesson, it is my hope that you will grasp a huge revelation from this little bit of Scripture.



*Understanding the Word*

The four books that lead out the New Testament are called the GOSPELS. They tell the stories of the LIFE OF CHRIST. These are four different people writing to four different audiences. Let’s begin with the genealogy of Christ. Here, we see two different views that are important for different reasons to the readers of these books.

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:21-37

**SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES:** Matthew 1:1; Luke 3:23

**Matthew 1:1** A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of \_\_\_\_\_, the son of \_\_\_\_\_.

Matthew's account of Jesus' genealogy lists His legal lineage through His earthly father, Joseph. Matthew starts with Abraham then moves through 14 generations to King David then 14 generations to the exile to 14 years to Christ. As with Jewish custom some names have been omitted, and the divisions made it easier to remember. Through this Jesus had legal claim to be the king of the Jews.

**Luke 3:23**...He was the son, so it was thought, of \_\_\_\_\_, the son of \_\_\_\_\_.

Luke's account of Jesus' genealogy starts with Mary's father (Joseph's father-in-law) then moves through the generations touching on a few names as Matthew did. His account is traced back to Adam. Luke stresses that Jesus is the offspring (flesh and blood) of Mary. "The Word became flesh." Both Mary and Joseph are from the line of David. If you remember from the covenant study, God made covenant that the line of David would rule forever. He was already talking about His own Son, Jesus.

Now we take a look at His childhood. Jesus was born but His first few days were a bit rough. Mary and Joseph followed the Jewish Law in accordance with what is recorded in Leviticus. Jesus was marked as a Jew and named "Lord of Salvation". Jesus was prophesied over, escaped from being murdered and moved to a new home a couple times at least. Let's take a look.

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Matthew 2:13-23; Luke 2:21-40; Leviticus 12

**SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES:** Leviticus 12:3; Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:21

**Leviticus 12:3** On the \_\_\_\_\_ day the boy is to be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 1:21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name \_\_\_\_\_, because He will \_\_\_\_\_ His people from their sins.

**Luke 2:21** On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise Him, He was named Jesus, the name the \_\_\_\_\_ had given Him before He had been conceived.

**SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES:** Leviticus 12:4; Luke 2:22,24; 28-32;34-35; Matthew 2:13, 19-20

Leviticus 12:4 Then the woman must wait thirty-three days to be \_\_\_\_\_ from her bleeding.

Luke 2:22, 24 When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took Him to \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Him to the Lord... and to \_\_\_\_\_ a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

V. 28-32 Simeon took Him in his arms and praised God, saying: “Sovereign Lord, as You have promised, You now dismiss Your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen Your \_\_\_\_\_, which You have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for \_\_\_\_\_ to the Gentiles and for the glory to Your people Israel.”

V. 34-35 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, His mother: “this child is destined to cause the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul, too.”

Matthew 2:13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” He said, “take the child and His mother and escape to \_\_\_\_\_. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill Him.”

V. 19-20 After Herod died, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and His mother and go to the land of \_\_\_\_\_, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

So the baby is all taken care of according to the Law. Now, we see the short but very powerful message of his youth.

**DIGGING DEEPER:** Luke 2:40-52

**SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES:** Luke 2:40, 41-43, 46, 47, 48-49, 51-52

V. 40 And the child \_\_\_\_\_ and became strong; He was filled with \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God was upon Him.

V. 41-43 Every year His parents went to \_\_\_\_\_ for the Feast of the Passover. When He was \_\_\_\_\_ years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while His parents were returning home, the boy Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ behind in Jerusalem, but they were \_\_\_\_\_ of it.

V. 46 After \_\_\_\_\_ days they found Him in the \_\_\_\_\_ courts sitting among the teachers, \_\_\_\_\_ to them and \_\_\_\_\_ them questions.

V. 47 Everyone who heard Him was \_\_\_\_\_ at His understanding and His answers.

V. 48-49 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. “Why were you searching for Me?” He asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in My \_\_\_\_\_ house?”

V. 51 Then He went down to Nazareth with them and was \_\_\_\_\_ to them.

V. 52 And Jesus grew in \_\_\_\_\_, and in \_\_\_\_\_ with God and men.

The New King James Version puts Luke 2:49 this way:

And He said to them, “Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father’s business?”



2 Corinthians 3:18 says, “*And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*” This passage refers to the fact that when we are in a relationship with God we are being changed into the likeness or image of Him. We want to take notice of His life to learn about the image we are to become. When we study His life, we learn right from wrong; truth from lies; how to act and behave; and how to combat the enemy. When I look at the Scripture from Luke, I see that at age 12, Jesus was already about doing His Father’s business.

We tend to not give our kids credit when it comes to learning about the things of God. They eventually come to an age of accountability to decide to make God their Lord or to reject Him. Often times, they follow in their parents’ footsteps, right or wrong. So, I am holding you accountable today. I am asking you to look at the example Christ demonstrated and to completely surrender your image to be like His. Let’s see how.

*Who Am I? Unlocking and Understanding the Mystery of Christ*  
*Week Three: Life of Christ: Birth* *Day Four: A Well-Spent Youth*

First, Jesus proclaims God as His Father. **Romans 8:14** says, “Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God,” and **8:16** says, “The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.” Are you truly a child of God? Have you asked Him to be your Father and to save you from your sin? If you have, you will grow to be like Jesus, “going about My Father’s business.” If you are a professed child of God, ask yourself, “Am I going about my Father’s business?” Now be honest, are you really? I know there was a time I thought I was, but I put the mirror up in front of me and all I could see was me. Now that I have asked God into my life and to be my Father, when I look into the mirror, I see less and less of me and more of Him. Not that I have come anywhere near the perfection of Christ, just that I now have to “go about my Father’s business,” or I will not have peace in my heart.

Last, Jesus was about His Father’s business, but maybe you are asking, “What business?” **John 3:16** shows that He is about loving the world and saving whomever will believe in Him. We can’t save anyone, but what was Jesus doing? He was telling others about God’s salvation. That, dear ones, is the business we need to be about... telling others of the Salvation of Jesus Christ.

This was the most important duty in all Jesus’ life, the relationship He had with His Father. It was more important than His earthly relationships; it was more important than everything. So, what did your mirror reflection look like? When we reflect the Son, we are known as joint heirs with Him, and one day we will go to be with Him forever.