

PENTECOST METHODIST CHURCH

LIVE-IT-OUT GUIDE

Sermon Date: 26/12/2021

Text(s): Luke 2:40–52

Sermon Title: I Must Be In My Father's House

Preacher: Rev Jason Phua

(The sermon recording is available in the PMC website and MyPMC App)

READ (5 mins)

Luke 2:40–52 (ESV)

40 And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.

42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.

43 And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it,

44 but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances,

45 and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

47 And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

48 And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress."

49 And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

50 And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.

51 And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

RELATE (30 mins)

(Relate to what was shared and on key themes in the sermon)

- 1. Joseph and Mary expected the child Jesus to be accountable to them. We see this from the story of Jesus staying at the Temple at Jerusalem without informing his earthly parents. Would you have expected the same if you were Joseph or Mary? Whether yes or no, please explain your answer.**

2. **The first point of the sermon is this: True obedience is about knowing and doing God's will. How did Jesus' two actions of staying on at the Temple and also submitting to his earthly parents demonstrate to us true obedience to God?**

3. **In the bible passage for today's sermon, part of the reason for the tension between Jesus and his earthly parents is that the parents did not really grasp Jesus' calling as the Messiah and all that it entailed (see v50). What would happen to us if we don't understand God's calling for ourselves? What would happen if we don't understand God's calling for our children?**

REFLECT (30 mins)

(Reflect and apply God's word to our daily lives)

1. **To know God's will, 2 key principles were shared. The first is that knowing God's will is foundationally about loving God and loving our neighbours. The second is that the two greatest commandments should be the guiding posts for the decisions we make. Have you used these 2 key principles before in your decision making? If so, please share one example how you lived them out.**

2. **True obedience grants wisdom and favour. How does this actually happen? What can we do to move us along that path?**

REST (15 mins)

(Take time to share and pray for one another)

(Pray for our church, our nation, and our world. See MyPMC > PRAY for monthly guide)

- Pray for one another to have a longing to know and do God's will, to imitate Jesus who was driven by the will of the Father.

- Pray for our church to be a people who would seek God's wisdom and desire to live in true obedience, thereby continuously receive God's wisdom and favour.

- Pray for the MCS to continue to be strong and stable, able to meet needs in Singapore, and to stand out as a true witness of Christ Jesus.