



# Priorities in Tension

Learning from the Perfect Twelve-Year-Old

Luke 2:41-52

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • January 12 & 13, 2013 • Gospel of Luke, week 10 • Msg. # 13-01

## The Setting (vv.41-47)

1. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.49-50)

2. Realize \_\_\_\_\_ (v.48)

3. When \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.51-52)

**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. (ESV)

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.*

1. Read **Exodus 20:3** and **Ezekiel 14:3**. While we may picture “idols” as a little metallic statues, clearly the timeless problem of “God-rivals” is a battle which takes place in one’s heart. What are some modern-day “idols” that people serve as supreme in their lives?
2. Read **Matthew 6:19-33**. Of course we all have to earn money to pay the bills and provide for our families, but how would you describe the shift that moves us into the category of “serving money” (v.24) and failing to “seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness” (v.33)?
3. Read **Daniel 3:14-18**. Though today in America we may not be thrown into a literal “fiery furnace” for disobeying or disappointing people for the sake of our ultimate priorities, there can still be plenty of unpleasant consequences. List a few.
4. Read **Acts 5:27-29**. Obviously there are times when the directives of a parent, a boss, or a government (or even the expectations of a friend, a spouse, or a culture) cannot be accommodated because they are a violation of what God's word commands. Describe the skill of refusing to compromise without being needlessly insolent.

## ***The CBC Bible Reading Schedule for this Week:***

Go to [ESV.org](http://ESV.org) (Reading Plans: Through the Bible) for schedule prompts.

### **January 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.31-32 & Mt.10:24-42*

### **January 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.33-35 & Mt.11*

### **January 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.36-37 & Mt.12:1-21*

### **January 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.38-40 & Mt.12:22-50*

### **January 17<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.41 & Mt.13:1-32*

### **January 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.42-43 & Mt.13:33-58*

### **January 19<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.44-45 & Mt.14:1-21*

### **January 20<sup>th</sup>**

*Gen.46-48 & Mt.14:22-36*

*The following related sermons are also available for free as mp3 downloads or audio streaming on the Focal Point Website ([FocalPointMinistries.org](http://FocalPointMinistries.org)).*

Msg. # 11-18 – **Human Laws & Christian Conduct**

Msg. # 08-14 – **How to Get Eternal Life: Things that Stand in the Way**

Msg. # 10-33 – **Strategic Rest and a Godly Work Ethic**

Msg. # 09-15 – **Avoiding the Common Parenting Sins**

Msg. # 11-21 – **Elections, Activism & Civil Disobedience**

*Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.*

Beale, G. K. **We Become What We Worship: A Biblical Theology of Idolatry**. InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Boice, James Montgomery. **Two Cities, Two Loves: Christian Responsibility in a Crumbling Culture**. IVP, 1996.

Clouse, Robert G. **Two Kingdoms: The Church and Culture Through the Ages**. Moody Press, 1993.

Harris, Murray J. **Slave of Christ: A New Testament Metaphor for Total Devotion to Christ**. InterVarsity, 2001.

MacArthur, John. **Slave: The Hidden Truth About Your Identity in Christ**. Thomas Nelson, 2010.

Ortlund, Raymond C. **Whoredom: God's Unfaithful Wife in Biblical Theology**. InterVarsity Press, 2001.

Piper, John. **A Godward Life: Savoring the Supremacy of God in All of Life**. Multnomah Press, 1999.

Ryken, Leland. **Redeeming the Time: A Christian Approach to Work and Leisure**. Baker, 1995.

Ryrie, Charles C. “The Christian and Civil Disobedience” *Bibliotheca Sacra* vol.127, no.506 (Apr 1970).

Sherman, Doug and William Hendricks. **Your Work Matters to God**. NavPress, 1987.

Thoennes, K. Eirk. **Godly Jealousy: A Theology of Intolerant Love**. Christian Focus Publications, 2005.

VanDrunen, David. **Living in God's Two Kingdoms: A Biblical Vision for Christianity & Culture**. Crossway, 2010.

White, Jerry. **Choosing Plan A in a Plan B World: Living Out the Lordship of Christ**. NavPress, 1987.

Zacharias, Ravi. **Deliver Us from Evil: Restoring the Soul in a Disintegrating Culture**. Thomas Nelson, 1998.

Zigarelli, Michael. **Faith at Work: Overcoming the Obstacles of Being Like Christ in the Workplace**. Moody Press, 2000.