



BETWEEN THE MANGER AND THE CROSS

Growth.

For the week of January 25th, 2026

Life

Read Luke 2:41–52. As you sit with this text at the close of this series, what aspects of this story stand out to you now?

In verse 52 Luke tells us that Jesus *grew* (*προέκοπτεν*) in wisdom and stature. The word Luke uses to explain the *growth* (*προκόπτω*) Jesus experienced is more literally defined as “**cutting a path forward, clearing obstacles in order to advance.**” Does this understanding of the growth Jesus experienced resonate or impact you at all?

Can you think of a season in your life where growth came through difficulty or obstacles?

Theology

What questions does verse **Luke 2:52** raise for you about Jesus? What theological implications does this verse have on following Christ?

Luke also tells us that as Jesus grew, He grew in favor with God and Man. What does this mean? What does this say about the nature of the Messiah?

In Practice

Read Proverbs 3. Why do you think Luke draws our attention to this text by citing it in verse 52? What from Proverbs 3 lends itself to Luke 2:41-52?

Read Romans 8:28. What obstacles in your life right now might Jesus be using to help you *grow*? How does understanding life as this ongoing opportunity to grow deeper into Christlikeness change the way you view your circumstances?

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS