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## Bible Story (cont.)

All too soon the visit to the big city was over and the travelers headed for home. They had been traveling for a whole day before Mary and Joseph realized they hadn't seen Jesus. They began looking for Him and questioning their friends and relatives about Him. No one in the group had seen Jesus. The worried parents turned around and hurried back to Jerusalem to find their son. They searched the city and finally found him in the temple. While they had frantically been trying to find Him, Jesus had been calmly sitting with the religious teachers in the temple, asking questions and listening to everything they had to say. The teachers were amazed at how much Jesus knew about God and His Word. Mary scolded her son for causing her such worry, but Jesus had not meant to cause a problem. 'Didn't you know I would be in my Father's house?' he asked his mother.

Jesus went back to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph. The Bible says that He willingly obeyed them. Imagine that! God's Son, who had helped create the whole world, didn't complain about what His parents told Him to do. He never accused them of being unfair. He didn't get angry when they misunderstood Him. He always did what they said because God wanted Him to. Because He was obedient, Jesus grew in favor with God and men. (Hold up the "in favor with God and men" word card.) That means everyone thought highly of Him, even God. And that's how God wants you to grow, too." (Hold up all three cards again and discuss them.)

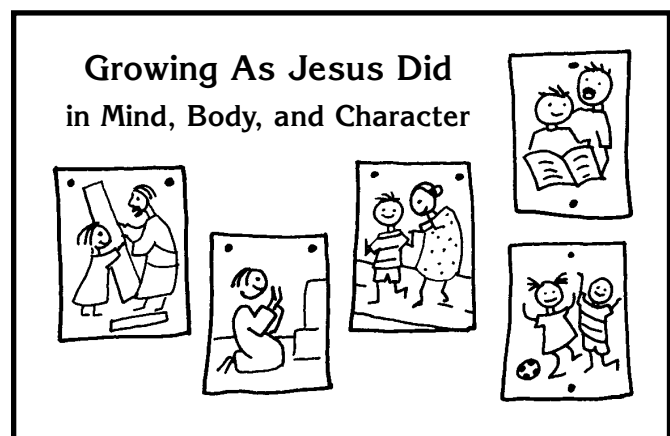
## Verse and Bulletin Board

**Memory Verse:** "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men."  
(Luke 2:52)

To help students understand this verse, have them act it out this way: And Jesus (*point to palm of each hand with index finger*) grew in wisdom (*point to brain*) and stature (*squat down, then stand up as tall as you can*) and in favor with God and men (*put hand over heart, then point toward heaven, then to other people*).

### Bulletin Board: Growing As Jesus Did

1. On a bright-colored strip of paper, print the caption: "Growing As Jesus Did in Mind, Body, and Character."
2. List some picture ideas on the chalkboard and let each student draw a picture to display on the bulletin board. The ideas should include Jesus as a boy helping His mom or dad, studying, playing, and in the temple. Also include children today helping someone, studying, playing, at church, and praying. Put the drawings on the bulletin board.





## Bible Verse Puzzle

We are all tempted to sin sometimes. Jesus was tempted, too. There is nothing wrong with being tempted. But giving in to temptation is sin. Jesus did not give in. He did not sin. Read the Bible verse. Then fit each word from the verse into the puzzle. Some letters are already in the puzzle to help you.

“Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.” Hebrews 2:18

