

Jesus Grew In Favor With God

(Luke 2:52)

Introduction:

1. As we know, it was food for Jesus to do the will of the father (John 4:34).
2. At the age of 12 he said he “must be about his father’s business (Luke 2:49).
3. The father affirmed his pleasure with his Son when at his baptism he said, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17).
4. What we want to do today is to grow in favor with God, but how do we do that?
5. Of course, the answer to that question is to follow our example.
 - a. (John 1:1,14).
 - b. Jesus came to show us what God is like, not so that God could see what man was like.

I. Misunderstanding About God’s Favor

- A. Many have the mistaken impression that if I have God’s favor, that I will have pleasure.
- B. God’s favor doesn’t equal my pleasure.
- C. Job.
- D. (Luke 1:30; Matthew 1:18-25) Mary & Virgin Birth
- E. (2 Corinthians 11-12) Paul.
- F. (Genesis 6:8) Noah.
- G. (Psalm 23) Valley of the Shadow of Death.

II. How To Have God’s Favor

- A. Love The Church of Christ Supremely.
 1. (Ephesians 5:25; Acts 20:28).
 2. (Ephesians 3:10-11) Manifold wisdom of God.
 3. (Ephesians 1:22-23) My involvement in it is necessary.
- B. Get To Know The Word of God.
 1. (2 Timothy 2:15).
 2. (Luke 4:16-21).
 3. Ills. Kim reading and memorizing my love letters.
 4. Ills. Getting my license and studying the book.
- C. Jesus was a man of prayer.
 1. (Matthew 21:13) House of prayer/den of thieves.
 2. (Mark 1:35) Rose before morning to pray.
 3. (Luke 6:12) Prayed all night.
 4. (Ephesians 3:20).
 5. Include fasting with prayer.
 - a. (Matthew 9:14-15) They will fast.
 - b. (Acts 10:30; 13:2-3; 14:23; 1 Cor. 7:5; 2 Cor. 6:5; 11:27).