



*encounter Jesus*

# Growing Up

Luke 2:39-52



# God Complex: Christianity Was “Borderline Illegal” in Silicon Valley. Now It’s the New Religion.

*Vanity Fair, April 2025*





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“For many years [mostly in the 2010s], the running joke—popularized by the HBO show *Silicon Valley*—was that in the Bay Area, Christianity was ‘borderline illegal.’”





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“It used to be that the 20-something whiz kid who coded a viral game and dropped out of Stanford was a venture capitalist darling. “VCs used to throw money at that guy,” said a woman who manages communications at a top-tier venture firm. “Now if someone comes in and says, ‘I love my parents so much, I grew up going to church, and then I joined the Army and that’s what gives me my work ethic,’ VCs will be like, ‘...*that guy*. Let’s fund *that guy*.’”



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“[It’s become appealing] to stand out in a monoculture in which polycules and ketamine are mundane but attending Sunday church service is subversive. ‘You know, in cities like San Francisco and New York, being a Christian is a little bit of a vice,’ said a San Francisco consultant. In other words, the new religion *is* religion.”





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# In Jesus we see God

**Colossians 1:15,19** He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation... For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell...

**Hebrews 1:3** He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.





# **Luke 2:39-52**

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# Luke 2:39-40

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.



# Luke 2:41-42

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.



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# Luke 2:41-42

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.

- This was not a quick journey.
- A boy in early adolescence would have begun to accompany his parents on such a journey in the years leading up to him becoming a “son of covenant.”



# Luke 2:43-45

And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, 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, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.



# Luke 2:43-45

And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, 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, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

- This may have been easy to do.



# Luke 2:46-47

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.



# Luke 2:48-50

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." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.



# Luke 2:48-50

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.” And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.

- The first demonstration of an awareness of his position as the unique Son of God.



# Luke 2:51-52

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.

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



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# Hebrews 5:7-10

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.



# Philippians 2:5-8

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.



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# The Person of Christ

1. Jesus Christ is fully divine.
2. Jesus Christ is fully human.
3. The divine and human natures of Christ are distinct.
4. The divine and human natures of Christ are fully united in one person.



# Emptying

1. Jesus “emptied” himself of role or status or privilege or position.
2. Jesus did not empty himself of essential attributes or nature.



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