

LEADER TRAINING

› WE GROW IN OUR FAITH BY FOLLOWING JESUS'S EXAMPLE.

SCRIPTURE | Luke 2:39-52

1 CENTRAL TRUTH

Jesus is God's perfect, sinless Son, yet He is our model for how to gain wisdom and remain faithful. If we want to grow in our walk with the Lord, we can follow Jesus's example of prioritizing the Word and being in God's presence.

2 KEY QUESTION

WHAT DID JESUS DO TO GROW IN WISDOM AND IN FAVOR WITH GOD AND OTHERS? HOW CAN YOU APPLY THIS?

3 KEEP IN MIND

Many students operate like they can get by and stay strong without consistent time in God's Word and in His presence. They live off of sermons and messages they've heard or off of "spiritual highs" from camps and retreats. But the Bible teaches that we need it to live (Deut. 8:3). If we try to live a meaningful, abundant life without taking in God's Word each day, we'll starve spiritually. When students try to live for the Lord without ingesting His Word as spiritual food, they fall into performing, striving, and checking off boxes to feel "good enough." But Jesus showed us a better way. We can't thrive spiritually without spiritual food—God's Word and His presence. Thinking we can get by with what we get from church or youth group is a lie; we need more, daily. The truth is that the enemy, Satan, would love to see our students starve. But we must remind them that God offers them a feast—His Word and His presence.

4 APPLICATION

WHAT EXCUSES DO WE GIVE FOR NOT PRIORITIZING TIME IN GOD'S WORD? WHY DO WE NEED TO READ IT CONSISTENTLY?

5 THE WIN

FOR THE STUDENT: Students need God's Word—more than anything else they prioritize. The effort they make to engage with it matters because they learn God's character, how to live, and how to love others. The Word is our daily bread.

FOR THE LEADER: Spend time assessing if the Word is your daily bread (Deut. 8:3) and if His holy presence is your Guide in all things (John 14:26). Pray about the areas of your life where you're attempting to operate in your own strength and understanding.