



*My Walk
with Jesus*

Judy Root

My Walk with Jesus
A Bible Study Workbook

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By Judy Root

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Introduction

I have often thought about what it would be like to walk with Jesus as He lived on the earth. Just imagine standing near Jesus and listening to His voice as He taught God's word. Join with me as we walk down Galilee's dusty roads and allow the events of Jesus' life to inspire us to be like Him. Each word Jesus spoke, each action He took, each rejection He endured has been recorded for us that we might learn the will of God. God has shown us through Jesus what it looks like to be His righteous servants.

The first recording we have of Jesus entering this earthly world is His birth. Luke recorded this majestic event when our King was born. Visualize standing with the shepherds on that dark night when the angel of God suddenly appeared, filling the sky with dazzling light and declaring, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord," Luke 2:10-11. Suddenly we would see a host of angels fill the sky, lifting their angelic voices, glorifying God. When I read about this great event, I feel that God has given us a glimpse into heaven where we will join our voices with the angels, praising our Lord.

What is the significance of the birth of Jesus? Why was it essential that the Holy Spirit reveal this event to us in such detail? First, the coming of the Messiah was the fulfillment of God's covenant with Israel. Psalm 89:3-4 restates God's promise which says, "I have made a covenant with My chosen; I have sworn to David My servant, I will establish your seed forever and build up your throne to all generations." The birth of Jesus also fulfills God's covenant with Abraham when God told Abraham that through his seed, all the nations of the world would be blessed (Genesis 22:18). Every prophecy of the Old Testament regarding the birth of the Messiah was fulfilled in the birth of Christ. God faithfully fulfilled His promise to Israel and to us. The miraculous birth of Christ is the foundation of our faith. We rejoice in our hearts and declare to the world, "The Savior has come." Let us begin our walk with Jesus.

Lesson 1

*Walking with Young Jesus in His
Search for Knowledge*

Luke 2:41–52

Anything we want to do and do well, we seek knowledge. We take classes, read books, talk to experts, and of course, “Google” for information. Once I tried to teach myself how to crochet by following written directions. It turned out to be a tangled mess! I learned from experience that crochet directions do not work for a lefty like myself. I needed more knowledge to be successful. The truth is I finally gave up on crocheting and moved on to something else.

When we turn to spiritual growth, we can see that knowledge is essential. We cannot simply give up and turn away from God’s word when we are challenged. Our very souls are at risk. As we read the account of young Jesus in the temple, let us imagine that we are there, observing firsthand his intense desire for knowledge of the Father.

Read Luke 2:41–52

1. What was the occasion that brought Mary and Joseph to Jerusalem?

What was its significance? Exodus 12:21–24

At the age of twelve, Jesus was allowed to participate with the men at the Passover feast. There were three other feasts, found in Exodus 23:14–17, in which all Jewish men took part. What event did each feast represent?

- Feast of the Unleavened Bread
 - Feast of the Harvest
 - Feast of the Ingathering
3. What motivated young Jesus to go to the temple?
 4. How did the temple Rabbis respond to Jesus?

5. Mary and Joseph were on their way back to Nazareth when they discovered that Jesus was missing. After searching for three days, Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the temple. What did Mary say to Jesus when she saw Him? Why was she so stern with Him?
6. How did Jesus respond to His mother? Was he being disrespectful?
7. Mary and Joseph did not understand His response, but Mary treasured everything in her heart. What other things did Mary treasure in her heart (Luke 2:3–19)?
8. Notice the intimate expression Jesus used to speak of God when He said, “I had to be in my Father’s house.” Do you think Jesus was beginning to understand who He was?
9. Why was it so important for Jesus to have this time in the temple to learn from the Rabbis? What did the Rabbis have that Jesus did not have?
10. Read Psalm 119:97–104 and as you do, imagine *Jesus* speaking the words and the significance that should have on us.
11. Consider the words of David and write about how God’s word has impacted your life.
12. After Jesus’ wonderful experience learning God’s word in the temple, how did He respond to his parents when He got home?
13. Verse 52 tells us that Jesus increased in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man. What do those words tell us about Jesus?
14. What was the driving force in young Jesus’ life?
15. Describe the character of Jesus at twelve years old.

God's Word in Action

This event allows us to see Jesus emerging into the person He was to become as an adult. Young Jesus' desire to know the will of God is the pathway we must also take to gain knowledge and wisdom. Scripture explains how this happens.

The Progression of Knowledge to Wisdom

Then you will discern the fear of the LORD
And discover the knowledge of God.

For the LORD gives wisdom;
From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.
(Proverbs 2:5-6)

1. The first step toward knowledge and wisdom is the "fear of the Lord." *Vines Dictionary of Old Testament Words* describes the "fear of God" as: "standing in awe, reverence, recognizing the power and position, rendering proper respect."

What are the characteristics of God found in the following verses that cause us to "stand in awe of Him"? Isaiah 46:9-10; Psalm 147:1-5; 139:1-24; Romans 11:33-36; Deuteronomy 7:9-11; Colossians 1:16-17

2. Proper reverence toward God will open our hearts to gaining knowledge. We will want to know God and understand His will. Underline God's commands in Joshua 22:5:

Only be very careful to observe the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God and walk in all His ways and keep His commandments and hold fast to Him and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

3. As our knowledge grows, our wisdom grows. Consider the development of a baby. The baby learns a new skill, such as grasping with her hands. At first, it is simply knowledge. But then she learns how to use that skill to accomplish what she desires. She may use it to hold her bottle or reach

for a toy. In this way, she is adding wisdom to her knowledge. As she learns how to use her body in more ways, she has the wisdom to apply those skills to more activities.

This example demonstrates how we grow spiritually. When we first come to Christ, we have a small amount of knowledge. God gives us the wisdom to apply that knowledge, which leads us to be baptized into Christ. From there, we add more knowledge, and our wisdom grows in how to apply God's word. It is an upward spiral; knowledge leads to wisdom; more knowledge leads to more wisdom. Fill in the missing words found in 2 Peter 3:18—

Grow in _____ and _____ of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity.

4. How does Peter describe a new Christian in 1 Peter 2:2–3?
5. God expects us to move forward from being babes in Christ to becoming mature Christians. See Hebrews 5:13–14. Why is it essential for us to receive solid food and become mature?
6. As you consider the words of 1 Peter 2:2–3 and Hebrews 5:13–14, what Biblical teachings do you regard as “milk”? Which are “solid food”?
7. What does Hosea say is the consequence of a lack of knowledge in Hosea 4:6?
8. The goal of knowledge is to grow in the wisdom of God. There is no benefit to simply gaining knowledge without also gaining the wisdom to obey God's will. See Romans 10:3. How had the Jewish leaders fallen short?

9. As you read Proverbs 2:4–10 below, underline the blessings of knowing God’s word.

If you seek her as silver
And search for her as for hidden treasures;
Then you will discern the fear of the LORD
And discover the knowledge of God.
For the LORD gives wisdom;
From His mouth come knowledge and understanding.
He stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
He is a shield to those who walk in integrity,
Guarding the paths of justice,
And He preserves the way of His godly ones.
Then you will discern righteousness and justice
And equity and every good course.
For wisdom will enter your heart
And knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

10. Proverbs 2:5–6 explains the three-step progression of knowledge to wisdom. Fill in the missing words.

Then you will discern the _____ and discover the _____.
For the LORD gives _____. From His mouth
come _____ and _____.

11. Write about ways in which your bible knowledge has progressed to wisdom.
12. When Ezra returned from Babylonian captivity, his goal was to restore worship in Jerusalem in a way that was pleasing to God. Ezra 7:10 says, “For Ezra had set his heart to study the law of the LORD and to practice it, and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.” What three things did Ezra set his heart on doing?
13. Using the words of Ezra, describe how you can be “approved by God.”

Lesson 2

Walking with Jesus as He was Tempted

Luke 4:1–13

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness follows the beautiful scene when Jesus was baptized by John (Matthew 3:13–17). When Jesus came up out of the water, the Spirit of God descended on Him as a dove, and God said, “This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.” Think about what your reaction would be to seeing the dove come out of heaven and hearing the voice of God.

Jesus went from being glorified by God to being tempted in a face-to-face confrontation with Satan. When Jesus came to earth, He entered Satan’s domain, and Satan’s desire was to destroy Jesus and His mission. This would only happen if Satan could cause Jesus to sin.

1. How did Jesus end up in the wilderness or desert? What does this tell us about who is in control?
2. What was the purpose of Jesus fasting for 40 days?
3. Fasting is a practice we read about throughout scripture. Why were these people fasting? Acts 14:23; 13:2–3; Ezra 8:21; Esther 4:15–16; 2 Samuel 12:16
4. When Jesus faced Satan, He was physically weak but spiritually strong. How did Satan try to take advantage of Jesus’ physical condition in the first temptation?
5. Satan will always take advantage of us when we are suffering. Write about someone you know whose faith was greater than their suffering.
6. How did Jesus’ answer Satan? Notice how Jesus began His response.
7. What is Jesus teaching us when He says, “It is written...”?

8. Read Psalm 19:7–10. In your Bible circle the qualities of God’s word and underline the result of each.
9. The next temptation took place on the mountain top (Matthew 4:8). What did Satan offer to give Jesus? What was Satan’s condition?
10. How did Jesus respond?
11. Satan tempts us with the things of this world, and there is always a condition. List some of Satan’s temptations and their conditions.
12. If our goal is to possess the things of this world, who are we worshiping?
13. What makes the things of this world so enticing to us?
14. What was Satan referring to when he said in v. 6: “I will give you all this domain and its glory; for it has been handed over to me”? (cf. Revelation 12:7–9; 1 John 5:19)
15. Finally, Satan leads Jesus to Jerusalem and has Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple. What did Satan tell Jesus to do?
16. Read Psalm 91:11–12. Notice how Satan took this Scripture out of context. Does this Scripture tell us to put God’s promises to the test?
17. How did Jesus respond to Satan?
18. Do we ever put God to the test? Complete this sentence: “I will be faithful to You, God if You will _____. How does this set us on the pathway to unfaithfulness? Has God promised us a life free of suffering? Look at the lives of the apostles.
19. We can see from these temptations that Satan knows scripture. What was wrong with his application? Was Satan’s motive to obey God’s word? What was his motive?

20. Jesus clearly won the battle with Satan. He never gave in to Satan's temptations or turned away from God's word. Does that mean Satan would leave Jesus alone in the future? What are some examples of Satan continuing to tempt Jesus?
21. Does Satan leave us alone when we successfully resist his temptations? What do these verses tell us about temptation? James 1:14–15; 4:7; Ephesians 6:10–11; Hebrews 2:14–18; 1 Peter 5:8–9

God's Word in Action

As we study the account of the temptations of Jesus, we learn that Satan tempts us in the same way. We will all face temptation in our lives, and we must be prepared.

1. How did Jesus prepare Himself for the temptations He was about to face?
2. Like Jesus, we can defeat Satan if we go to God's word, our "shield of faith," and allow Him to prepare us for the difficult decisions we face. We must ask ourselves what our spiritual weaknesses are. If we think about what tempts us and prepare for how we will resist before it happens, we will win that battle with Satan. What is your strategy for resisting Satan?
3. What are the lessons of each of the following scriptures?
 - When I am tempted to lie, I will remember John 8:44.
 - When I am tempted to gossip, I will remember Ephesians 4:29.
 - When I am tempted to judge others, I will remember James 4:12.
 - When I am tempted to criticize others, I will think about Matthew 12:37.
 - When I am angry, I will think about James 1:19–20.
 - When I want to brag, I will think about Luke 14:11.

4. God tells us how to overcome temptation in the following verses. Fill in the blanks.

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God _____, who will not allow you to be tempted _____, but with the temptation will provide the _____ also, so that you will be able to _____ it.
(1 Corinthians 10:13)

But I say, walk by the _____, and you will not carry out the desire of the _____.
(Galatians 5:16)

Keep _____ and _____ that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.
(Matthew 26:41)

Your _____ I have treasured in my heart, that I may not _____ against You.
(Psalm 119:11)

5. Satan tempted Jesus when Jesus was in a weak physical condition. What are some situations we face in life that make us physically or emotionally vulnerable?
6. Where do people go to find the answers to their problems other than God?
7. Who did Jesus go to when He was tempted?
8. Why was it necessary for Jesus to be tempted? How was He perfected through suffering? (Hebrew 5:8–9; Hebrews 2:17–18)

9. What is the difference between tested faith and untested faith?

10. How were the following people's faith tested? Noah, Job, Esther, and Daniel

11. How is our faith made stronger through temptation and trials? (James 1:2-4)

12. Read 1 John 2:16. Which temptations of Jesus were:
 - Lust of the flesh _____
 - Lust of the eyes _____
 - Pride of life _____

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