Key Points from this morning's message

- Way of Jesus statement for today
 - I have begun following Jesus and am depending on the Spirit of Jesus in my journey
- Twice Luke declares Jesus developed both physically and in wisdom, including God's favour. Jesus' full humanity is important to take into consideration of our apprenticeship to Him.
- Jesus went to synagogue regularly, but the point is not to simply be present as though attendance alone shapes our minds, hearts and souls.
- We are called to be active in our apprenticeship to Jesus, which should include engaging with those who are different than we are and in how we think.
- We can approach God through a set of rules\performancebased approach <u>or</u> we can approach through being grounded in His love regardless of our performance. Jesus followed the second.

Reflections\Practices to help apply this morning's message:

Scripture: Read Luke 2:40-52 again.

<u>Spiritual Exercise(s)</u>: Looking at the wording of verses 40 & 52 from Luke 2, reflect on how you are active in co-operating with God in your own growth and development in wisdom and spiritual maturity. What is your plan?

In some traditions within Christianity there is encouragement to develop what is called a 'rule of life', basically it is a plan for how and where a person sees God inviting them to invest their time, energy and effort on a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly rhythm. <u>Not</u> a legalistic rule to follow as a performance thing, but rather a framework to help intentionally live more attuned to the rhythms that encourage becoming more like Jesus. If this is of any interest to pursue, contact Pastor Graham for further resources and coaching.

Jesus, this is one way I hear You calling me to take a step of faith to follow You more fully today.

<u>I "Must" #1 – Be In My Father's House – May 7, 2023</u> Luke 2:40-52