

Luke 2:49

And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"

Some of you reading these devotionals know me, and you know what I do for a living. Some of you know me and don't really know what I do for a living. Others of you who read these devotionals and bible studies think I do this for a living.

Well for all of you, I do not get paid to teach the bible, in fact there is not even a way to donate to this ministry because it's all free. But what I do for a living is that I'm a consultant in the medical device industry. I have been doing this type of work of over 25 years now. But I wasn't always in this line of work. People are actually surprised to find out that I used to paint cars for a living, and from there went into painting commercial aircraft before I got into what I do now.

So how did I get into painting cars? I learned it from my dad, who was a car painter for the City and he would paint cars on the side in our garage on the weekends. So I learned it from my dad. In a sense you can say that I was learning the family business.

When I read today's devotional verse it reminded me of that. As I read it, I never thought for Jesus, that the family business was being a carpenter, because Joseph was not Jesus's dad, God was.

Now if you read this story leading up to today's verse, it tells how Joseph and Mary would go to Jerusalem every year and take Jesus with them. Jesus was now 12 years old this particular year, and this 12 year old Jesus stayed behind and was talking to the teachers in the temple.

✠ ***Luke 2:46 Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.***

So when Mary and Joseph finally find Jesus, his response was ***"Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?"*** And His father's business was whatever God does, which would be to teach the people.

Think about that, God taught the Children of Israel for 40 years while they were in the wilderness. And even though some believe God taught them a bunch of rules, that was not it at all. If you read the end of Moses' life in Deuteronomy, he tells of how blessed and prosperous and how great life would be if they followed God's teachings. He also taught them how bad life would be if they didn't follow God's teachings.

So Jesus was in the temple, doing His Father's business, which was learning what God taught the children of Israel, so that He could do the same thing, and as children of God, shouldn't we be about our Father's business too?

† **Deuteronomy 10:12-13** *And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good?*

† **Micah 6:8** *He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?*

† **John 15:12** *This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*

But if God is not your Father, then you have the father of lies that you are following, and you are following that family business.

So, if you look at the things you do and say, which business are you following? You can tell by your lifestyle and how you treat others as well as what you say to others.

† **John 10:10** *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

† **John 8:44** *You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*

† **John 8:42** *Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me."*