

# INTRODUCTION TO CHRIST-CENTERED MANHOOD



## The Fundamentals

### LEADER NOTES

*Following the Feast of the Passover in Jerusalem, Jesus' parents begin the journey home. But Jesus stays behind, listening and asking questions in the temple courts. He is only twelve years old at the time. When his parents discover him missing and eventually find him there, he tells them, "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" Verse 52, our memory verse, then tells of the years following this episode.*

*Countless sermons to teenagers have focused on Luke Chapter 2, verse 52. With age in common to this scripture reference, teenagers are often taught from this verse. Giving clear and basic principles for their Christian walk and growth, teens can be exhorted in the fundamentals offered in this simple statement of basics.*

### Theme Verse

**Luke 2:52:** *And Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and men.*

### STORY

Ya gotta love the San Antonio Spurs – and for good reason. They won their first championship under the leadership of the outspoken Christian players, David Robinson and Avery Johnson. Coach Popovich has led this team with a philosophy of selfless team effort. Like no other team, they utilize the strengths of all five starters while drawing from bench player talents.

The Spurs have won three more championships. The backbone for the team for those three seasons was, and still is Tim Duncan. When you watch him play, you see no flash, no hype, no show-off attitude. It's even hard to pinpoint a particular skill that makes him stand out. So Shaq said it best when he gave him the nickname "Mr. Fundamental."

Like any discipline, the fundamentals are key. All the natural talent, training, experience or even confidence cannot bring about the full potential of an individual without fundamentals. The smartest rookie and the wisest veteran alike stick with the basics. In fact, an experienced expert will go "back to the basics" when he's in a slump and his performance seems to be suffering.

Addressing the three source scriptures for the Squires teaching topics, the first verse establishes our fundamentals.

# The Fundamentals

## Discussion: *OPEN IN PRAYER*

Who likes the San Antonio Spurs?

Who was known as “The Admiral” and who was known as “The Little General?”

The Admiral: David Robinson (now retired, 1990 Rookie of the Year, 1992 NBA Defensive Player of the Year, 1995 league’s MVP)

The Little General: Avery Johnson (went on to become head coach of the Dallas Mavericks)

Who were the “Twin Towers?”

David Robinson and Tim Duncan.

What is the nickname Shaq gave to Tim Duncan? (1998 Rookie of the year, two-time MVP of the NBA, three-time MVP of the playoffs, four NBA Championship rings)

Mr. Fundamental

Why did Shaq give Tim Duncan that nickname?

When you watch him play, you see no flash, no hype, no show-off attitude. It’s even hard to pinpoint a particular skill that makes him stand out.

What are “fundamentals” and why are they important?

Basic and elementary components of something. They are essential for proper execution.

Addressing the three Knighthood Verses for manhood principles, the first verse establishes our *fundamentals* as young Christians.

### **1. And Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and men.**

#### **Luke 2:52**

“**And Jesus grew...**” Jesus was twelve years old when his parents found him in the temple courts of Jerusalem with the teachers. His teen-age years of growing and maturing followed.

**1.1: Wisdom:** From a biblical worldview, we use our knowledge, discernment, and understanding to take the right course of action.

**1.2: Stature:** physical nourishment, growth, strength and health.

**1.3: Favor with God:** Follow God’s will through faith, discipleship, prayer, love and service.

**1.4: Favor with men:** Socially competent. Able to gain the respect of people and to influence others.

## *CLOSE IN PRAYER*