

# Lose to Win

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## Luke 2:46

*After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking questions.*

“Sometimes in life, we have to lose just to win.” Life sure can hit you hard. Suddenly, and when you least expect it- WHAM!! Life has a knack for challenging you in ways that you don’t feel you’re prepared for. I’ve oftentimes felt like life sometimes tests and shapes you in a manner in which you feel least equipped. It seems when this happens, it’s easy to drop into a victim mindset. It’s easy to feel stuck, defeated, and feel as though you are a losing player in the game of life.

This victim mindset argues (very loudly) that we have lost; that nothing good is on the horizon. We must never forget that the volume of an argument does not reflect the validity of the argument. Just because the victim mentality argues that we are losing doesn’t mean that it’s true.

The parents of young Jesus thought they had lost him. But after finding him in the temple, watching him develop a new way of seeing God; this newfound experience helped them to realize that during a difficult time in life when we thought we were losing, we were winning. An *empowered* perspective can help us to see that we can only *get stronger* when working against resistance. **In our struggles is where we find our strengths.** It is when challenged to our core that we learn the depth of who we are. It’s when we feel broken that we become experts at mending.

It is from losses and brokenness that we learn the measure and power of the *true love of God*.

- Every job you were denied opened the door to new opportunities.
- Every mistake you thought would be the end of you pointed you towards an incredible success.
- Every economic challenge and health crisis does not stop the plan of God.

Sometimes when you think you’re losing, you’re actually winning. As with Jesus, when you’re sitting among teachers learning the will and ways of God nothing is ever lost. You actually find victory (winning) is a far greater experience than you could have ever imagined. ***With God, your temporary loss never outweighs the end result.*** God’s preparation for a young boy prepared mankind for an ***ETERNAL WIN.***

What challenges are you facing today that can strengthen you for tomorrow? Let today be the day you step out of the victim mindset. Just as Jesus, “when you’re about your father’s business” sometimes you may have to lose to win.