

## Ordinary Disciples Podcast

### Episode 2—Jesus' Hidden Years Part 1

#### Jesus as a Child

1. Do you accept the idea that God works in hiddenness to develop our character and make us more like Jesus? Can you think of instances where this has occurred in your own life?
2. Thomas a Kempis writes, in the Imitation of Christ, "love to be unknown." Is this a realistic posture in our modern age? Why or why not?
3. Jean Pierre de Causaade writes: If we have abandoned ourselves to God, there is only one rule for us: the duty of the present moment. To achieve the height of holiness, people must realize that what they consider trivial and worthless is actually what can make them holy. Imagine how this might have been true in Jesus' hidden years? How might this be true in your life?
4. Why do you think there is so little detail regarding Jesus' first thirty years of life? What is God's purpose?
5. How might the holy family's status as refugees help us empathize with refugees and immigrants today?
6. How comfortable are you calling God, Abba? Do you believe this might help build intimacy in your relationship with God?
7. One of Brennan Manning's favorite prayers was, "Abba, I belong to you." Pray this as a breath prayer throughout your day and see what difference it makes.

8. Keith ends the podcast with this odd blessing: *May all your expectations be frustrated, may all your plans be thwarted, may all your desires be withered into nothingness, that you may experience the powerlessness and poverty of a child and sing and dance in the love of God who is the Father, Son, and Spirit.*

9. Pray this blessing whenever you feel at a dead end in your life.