

Twelve-year-old Jesus in the Temple

Luke 2:40-52



The Story

The Bible tells us that, as a child, Jesus grew strong in His body and in His spirit. He became very wise and God's grace was upon Him. There is only one story in the Bible about what Jesus did as a child.

Every year Jesus' mother and father would travel from their town, Nazareth, to a city called Jerusalem. They went to the Passover Feast. When Jesus was 12-years-old, He went with His parents to Jerusalem for the feast. They went because God wanted them to go.

After the feast was over, Jesus' mother and father started the journey back to Nazareth with all the other people returning there. Jesus, however, stayed behind in Jerusalem by Himself. His mother and father did not know Jesus had stayed in Jerusalem. They thought He was safe with other friends and family.

Mary and Joseph walked for a whole day. When they could not find Jesus, they went back to Jerusalem to look for their boy.

Mary and Joseph looked and looked for their Son. After three

days they found Jesus. He was in the temple. The teachers were all around Him. Jesus was listening to the teachers. He was asking the teachers questions too. Everyone who heard Him could hardly believe how much Jesus knew.

When Jesus' mother and father saw Him, they were very surprised. His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Look, your father and I have been very worried while we looked for you."

Jesus told His mother and father that He did not know why they were looking for Him. He thought they knew He must be doing God's work. He thought they knew He must be learning God's Word. But Jesus' mother and father really did not understand what Jesus said to them.

Then Jesus went back to Nazareth with His parents and obeyed them always. Mary, His mother, remembered all these things that happened. Jesus kept growing wiser and stronger. God and men admired Jesus very much.

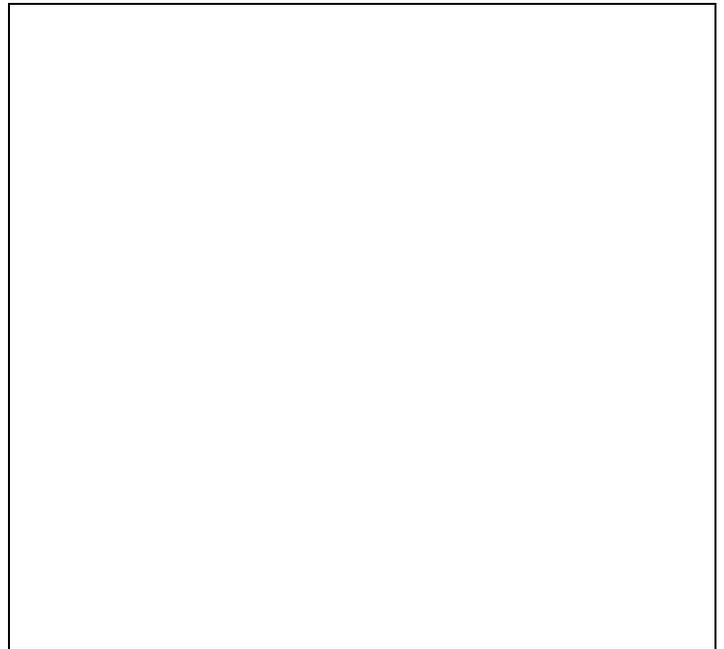
Passages

Luke 11:28 “Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.”

Review - Look at the picture on the front page

1. Circle the teachers.
2. Draw a line under Jesus.
3. Use your purple crayon to color the people who were surprised at how much Jesus knew.
4. Use your green crayon to color the One who was gladly listening to the Word of God.

Activity - Draw a picture of a place where you could hear and learn God’s Word.



Talking to Jesus

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for giving us Your Word. Help us to joyfully learn it. Amen.