

The Boy Jesus at the Temple - Luke 2:41-52

Topics: Children, Church, Example, Family, Growth, Habits, Learning, Maturity, Obedience, Parents, Questions, Training, Youth

Open It

- * 1. When have you accidentally left someone behind during a trip or activity?
- 2. If you had to get lost, would you rather it be in a city or a wilderness? Why?
- 3. What do you find most characteristic of young adolescents?

Explore It

- 4. Why did Jesus' parents go to Jerusalem every year? (2:41)
- * 5. How did Jesus get left behind in Jerusalem? (2:43-44)
- * 6. Why did three days pass before Mary and Joseph found Jesus? (2:46)
 - 7. What was Jesus doing during the three days that He was on His own? (2:46)
 - 8. What were the effects of Jesus' questions and answers on the teachers in Jerusalem? (2:46-47)
- * 9. How did Mary respond when she and Joseph finally found Jesus? (2:48)
 - 10. What was Jesus' response to His parents' frantic arrival? (2:49)
 - 11. How did Jesus answer His parents' concern for Him? (2:49)
 - 12. After replying to His parents, what did Jesus do? (2:51)
 - 13. What do we learn about Mary through this incident? (2:41, 48, 50-51)
 - 14. What happened to Jesus as He grew? (2:52)

Get It

- 15. What would you have wanted to ask Jesus had you been around during those three days in the temple?
- * 16. What kind of pattern or model were Mary and Joseph setting for Jesus by their family traditions?
 - 17. How often do children carry on the habits and beliefs that really are significant to their parents?
 - 18. What happens when parents try to pass on to their children beliefs or habits which they do not have themselves?
- * 19. How does this story illustrate the tension Jesus may have felt between obedience to His Father and obedience to His earthly parents?
 - 20. In what way should we strive to grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and others?
 - 21. How did Jesus demonstrate His uniqueness as the Son of God?

Apply It

- * 22. Of the four ways in which Jesus grew (in wisdom, in stature, in favor with God, in favor with man), which one needs the most work in your life?
- 23. What difference might it make to you this week if you prepared for church as if it were a visit to your Father's house?