

## The Boy Jesus in the Temple

### *Luke 2:41 - 52*

**Devotional Reading: Psalm 27**

**Background Scripture: Luke 2:41 - 52**

**LESSON AIMS:** the students will:

- **List** key features of Passover observances
- **Compare** and **Contrast** expectations of a typical 12-year-old-boy of the time with this account from Jesus' youth
- **Write a note** to a young person to encourage that person in his or her spiritual journey

**INTRODUCTION:** As the summer quarter explores Scriptural themes around worship, sacrifice, and offerings, lessons in July focus on texts from the Gospels that depict Jesus' relation to the Temple. Today's passage fast-forwards twelve years to the only Biblically recorded incident in the life of Jesus between His birth and His ministry at age 39. It recalls Jesus' visit to the Temple at age 12. Scripture commanded that Jews were required to make the pilgrimage to Jerusalem each year. Passover was the most important of the three appearances. As Joseph and Mary journeyed home, they realized that Jesus was not in the company of travelers.

**KEY VERSE:** *49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?*  
*Luke 2:49*

**LESSON:**

Jesus Went Missing

Luke 2:41 - 45

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Jesus Was Found

verses 44 - 50

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Jesus Went Home

verses 51 - 52

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**Summary:** Jesus had gone to share the Passover at age twelve. As a devout Jew, He surely looked forward to this trip. The trip, traveling at 15 miles per day, would have been a 4-day's journey. Jesus went through a growth process just as we do - - not only physically - - but also spiritually and intellectually. At an early age, Jesus knew that God had something special for Him to do. We learn from this text that having faith in God should be most important in our lives. Jesus completed God's work for Him at the Temple and when His parents arrived, He obediently returned home with them. Though His parents did not fully understand, Mary stored her Son's words in her heart.

### Questions:

1. *How can you help share the responsibility of caring for the children of your relatives and friends?*
2. *How do you respond when you have struggled to understand what God might be doing or trying to teach you?*
3. What steps should you take to keep spiritually formative memories alive?

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DAY / DATE	SCRIPTURE	
Mon., June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Living in God's Presence	Psalms 27
Tue., July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Anointed by the Holy One	1 John 2:20 – 28
Wed., July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Remember Israel's Redemption	Deuteronomy 16:1 – 10
Thurs., July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rejoice Before the Lord	Deuteronomy 16:11 – 17
Fri., July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Judah Has Become God's Sanctuary	Psalms 114
Sat., July 5 <sup>th</sup>	The Father and I Are One	John 10:22 – 30, 34 – 38
Sun., June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jesus Learns in His Father's House	Luke 2:41 - 52