



LESSON 3

REFERENCES: LUKE 2:41-50; *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, PP. 75-83.

Lost and Found

What do you like to do most in Sabbath School and church? Do you like to sing songs or give an offering? How about listening to stories about God? When Jesus was a child, He visited the big Temple with His parents.

Jesus went to a little temple in His neighborhood every Sabbath. But once a year His family went to the big Temple. There they would



celebrate Passover. It was to help them remember when Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt.

One year at the big Temple the teachers talked with Jesus. He asked the teachers a lot of questions. They liked Jesus' questions.

Soon the teachers began to ask Jesus questions! They were surprised that He knew so much. The teachers thought that only boys who went to the Temple school knew so much about God.

When the special day was over, Jesus' parents left for home. But Jesus wasn't with them. They may have thought He was walking with other family members or friends. After they had

Memory Verse

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature."

LUKE 2:52, NIV.

The Message

We learn so that we can help others.

traveled for a whole day, they realized He was not with them. They looked for Him, but didn't find Him.

"We have to go back to the city!" Mary cried to Joseph. "We have to find Jesus." They had already traveled a long way, and it took them a long time to get back to Jerusalem.

In the city Mary and Joseph looked for Jesus everywhere. They may have asked people, "Have you seen our Son, Jesus?" But no one had seen Him.

Finally Mary and Joseph decided to look for Jesus at the big Temple. They found Him there, talking to the temple teachers. Mary and Joseph were relieved. "Son, why have you treated us like this?" Mary asked. "Your father and I have been searching anxiously for you."

"Why were you searching for Me?" Jesus asked. "Didn't you know that I had to be in My Father's house?"

But Mary and Joseph didn't understand what He meant.

Do you understand? In God's house, people learn about God and tell others about God. That's what Jesus was doing in the big Temple. Now He knew God's plan for His life. Now He knew He was God's Son. And He knew He would help people and tell them about God as He grew up.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story together, and review the memory verse.

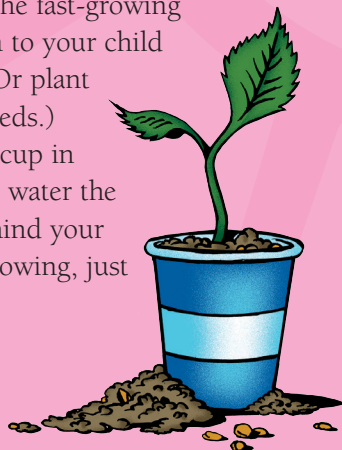
- “**And Jesus** Point upward.
- grew** Hands at waist, palms open, move upward to chin.
- in wisdom** Point to head.
- and stature.”** . . . Raise hand above head.
- Luke 2:52** Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

As you read the Bible story together, have your child open the scroll they made in Sabbath School. Or make one now. Ask: “What do you think Jesus learned in the Temple?”

MONDAY

Help your child read or follow along as you read the memory verse from the Bible. In a paper cup with dirt, plant the fast-growing seeds that were given to your child in Sabbath School. (Or plant other fast-growing seeds.) Help them place the cup in a sunny window and water the seeds every day. Remind your child that they are growing, just as Jesus did.



TUESDAY

Let your child

carefully hold the Bible while you “read” Luke 2:41-50 together. Help your child make a scroll and draw a picture about the story. Have them share their scroll with someone and tell them about Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

Help your child make a thank-you card to give to their Sabbath School teacher.

Sing Sabbath School songs; then thank Jesus for their Sabbath School teacher.



THURSDAY

Play hide-and-seek with your child, or hide an object and have your child find it. Talk about a time you or your child were lost. Ask: “How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when they couldn’t find Jesus?”

FRIDAY

With the rest of the family, have a church service with praise songs, prayer, and “preaching.” Thank God for the freedom to go to a place of worship whenever we want or the ability to meet with other believers to learn about God.

Sing “God’s House” (*Little Voices Praise Him*, no. 185); then have prayer.