

A Year with the Catechism

Introduction

Jesus at 12 in the Temple

Opening Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

As we watch Jesus as a young boy, He learned about the Bible. Teach us that we should study the Bible, to learn about You and that we can and should believe and trust in You.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

Memory Work:

Bible:

⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were shocked. His mother asked him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been worried, looking for you!"

⁴⁹ Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you realize that I had to be in my Father's house?" (*Luke 2:48-49*)

Catechism:

As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household.

Focus:

Here Jesus is a good example. He studied and learned the Scriptures, so that He could give a good answer (*1 Peter 3:15*). The reason we are here is to build and strengthen our faith, and our trust in God's Holy and Sacred Word.

Lesson:

Luke 2:41-52

Mary and Joseph Find Jesus with the Teachers in the Temple Courtyard



⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents would go to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. ⁴² When he was 12 years old, they went as usual.

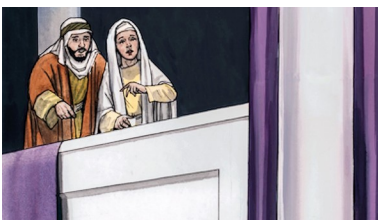
⁴³ When the festival was over, they left for home.

The boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents didn't know it. ⁴⁴ They thought that he was with the others who were traveling with them.



After traveling for a day, they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.

⁴⁵ When they didn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.



⁴⁶ Three days later, they found him in the temple courtyard.



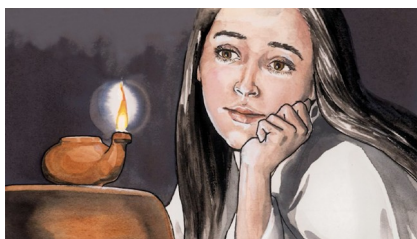
He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them, and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ His understanding and his answers stunned everyone who heard him.



⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were shocked. His mother asked him, “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been worried sick looking for you!”

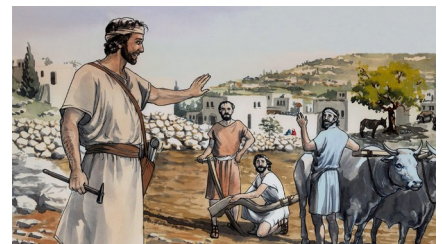
⁴⁹ Jesus said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Didn’t you realize that I had to be in my Father’s house?” ⁵⁰ But they didn’t understand what he meant.

⁵¹ Then he returned with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them.



His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² Jesus grew in wisdom and maturity. He gained favor from God and people.



Review:

- **Why did Jesus' parents go to Jerusalem every year?** For the Festival of the Passover
- **How old was Jesus in this story?** 12
- **After the festival, Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. How long did his parents travel on the way home before they noticed that he wasn't with them?** One day
- **Why were they not aware that he wasn't with them?** They were traveling in a group with family and friends and they thought he was with other people in the group.
- **When they couldn't find him among friends and family what did they do?** They went back to Jerusalem to look for him.
- **How long did it take to find him?** 3 days.
- **Where did they find him?** At the temple.
- **What was he doing?** Sitting with the teachers, asking questions.
- **What did the teachers think of Jesus?** They were amazed at his understanding.
- **What did his parents say when they found Him?** "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."
- **How did He answer them?** "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"
- **What do you think he meant by that?** That the temple should have been the first place they should have looked for him because this was the house of God, his Father, and he was doing what God wanted him to do.
- **Did Jesus stay there at the temple after that?** No. He obeyed them and went back to Nazareth with them.
- **What was Mary's reaction?** She treasured these things in her heart.
- **How do we grow physically?** We eat food and we exercise our muscles
- **How do we grow mentally?** We go to school and study books to learn things
- **How do we grow spiritually?** By going to church, reading the Bible, praying, and learning about God.

Closing Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Dear God, help us to learn from Jesus' example so that we are excited to learn about You, and all that You have done to save us.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.