

## ■ Luke 2:41-52 - "We've Lost Jesus!"

*Key Thought/Action: Jesus recognized and embraced His Kingdom purpose over worldly priorities. We should too.*

### Welcome/Prayer:

After prayer and a short review of last week, we'll have a Children's time upfront.

### Review:

One Another

1. Submit,	6. forgive,
2. serve,	7. encourage,
3. love,	8. confess to,
4. Accept,	9. be hospitable to, and
5. bear with,	10. spur one another on to love and good deeds

### Children's Time:

Ask the children, "What do you think Jesus was like when he was a child?"

Jesus is our best example of what God wants you and I to be like.

Book: Listen carefully while I read from the Bible. I am reading from Luke chapter two. Listen for what Jesus was like when he was a boy.

Read (and summarize) Luke 2:41-52. (Read with emotion and pause often to engage the children with the reading.) Be sure to emphasize the following ideas in your exposition.

Luke 2:41-52 New International Version (NIV)

The Boy Jesus at the Temple

41 Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. 42 When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. 43 After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44 Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. 46 After three days they found him **in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions**. 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know **I had to be in my Father's house?**" 50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

51 Then he went down to Nazareth **with them and was obedient to them**. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And **Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man**.

Jesus was a real boy. He was fully human and fully God. He grew up, had birthdays, and learned just like you. Jesus listened carefully to Bible teachers.

Jesus always obeyed his parents.

Jesus said, "I must be in my Father's house."

Ask the children to report on what they learned about Jesus from the story. Ask, "What was Jesus like when he was a child?" The answers should be closely related to the points of emphasis listed above.

Yes or No: Read the following list of sentences. Ask the children to **stand up** for each sentence that tells something this story actually teaches about Jesus as a child. If the sentence was not taught in the story **stay seated**. Say, "Some of these ideas may have been true, but we can't be sure if it isn't in the Bible.

1. **Jesus went to the Temple**
2. Jesus played Soccer
3. **Jesus listened to and asked questions from Bible teachers.**
4. Jesus always earned "As and Bs" in school.
5. **Jesus obeyed his parents.**

Jesus' example also shows us that we need to be saved. You do not perfectly obey your parents. It's not because you're a kid. It's because of your sin. It's because you don't want to obey your parents. We need God to take away our sins and give us a new heart. And that is what He promises to do if we ask Jesus to forgive us and to stop doing wrong things.

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### Intro:

- Find Luke 2:41-52
- Ready to get back to normal schedule after a big holiday ... can you relate? And then this happens!

### Scripture:

Luke 2:41-52 (NIV)

## The Boy Jesus at the Temple

- This account only appears in Luke
- Luke, careful investigator everything, could it have been a personal interview with Mary?
- **Most of Jesus' earthly childhood is not recorded in the Bible for us. ■ Why do you think this account is?**  
(I'll invite responses after we read these 12 verses)

41 Every year **Jesus' parents** went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover.

- Joseph and Mary were faithful in following Jewish laws, they were devout

42 When he was **twelve years old**, they went up to the festival, according to the custom.

- Significant, at age 12 a Jewish boy entered full participation into religious life, "bar mitzvah", which I equated with the celebration/party, actually is the word for what the boy becomes ... anyone remember what "Bar" means as in Barabbas, Barnabas... "son of the commandment"

43 After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy **Jesus stayed** behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.

- Seems purposeful, I'll talk more about this in a minute ...

44 **Thinking he was in their company**, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him **among their relatives and friends**.

- They trusted Jesus and gave him the freedom, and responsibility, seems consistent with a respectful obedient child
- Everyone would know about this... concern, embarrassment, help & support

- We've lost Jesus!
- What are others thinking now about Mary, "blessed among women"
- Joseph & Mary were devoted parents, but they weren't perfect parents, and we aren't either, life happens and we try to move forward

45 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

- Where's that bright star now?

46 After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

- 3 days, lost, then found, in Jerusalem ... sound like foreshadowing to you?
- At temple, w/teachers, listening, asking, answering
- Would any of these same teachers accuse Him 20 some years later?
- Jesus loved the scripture, was seeking God and His ways ... we should too

48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

- In the parent's worry, they misinterpreted Jesus' intentions
- Hebrews 12: human fathers who disciplined us for a little while as they thought best
- Who hasn't been misunderstood by a parent, what parent hasn't felt hurt by their son or daughter?

49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ... (or "I must be about My Father's business?")

50 But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

- When Jesus stayed behind, ... it seems purposeful, but not intentionally disobedient, or disrespectful
- not something the average 12 year old would do, showing Jesus' uniqueness as the Son of God
- I believe Jesus recognized His relationship with God the Father and embraced His purpose and calling and ultimate loyalty to Father God, even if it means misunderstanding with family and friends
- The contrast between His "father" and His "Father"

51 Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.

- In spite of a misunderstanding, and seeing things from different perspectives, they work together and get through it
- Jesus was obedient to earthly parents ... let's not miss that ... if anyone had a right to tell His "parents", "I know better than you!", it was Jesus, but unless it went against God's purpose and plan, He was obedient to them.
- personal interview with Mary?

52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

- Jesus growing in wisdom
  - Let's try to think for a bit about what Jesus gave up in coming to earth as human
  - To some degree He gave being all-knowing ... at least He had to be taught things ... to walk, to read, to memorize the scriptures, to work in His father's carpentry shop
  - What did He do in the temple courts, He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. (to learn, to grow !!?)

- And if that's true, why did He give up being all-knowing and have to learn and be taught things at least while He was growing up? ... to purposefully identify and relate to you and I
  - Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.

Jesus recognized and embraced His Kingdom purpose over worldly priorities

## Example/Personal or Others:

■ This reminded me of the quote by Jim Elliot "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

And the Song: He Is No Fool by Twila Paris which references the quote and the sacrificial lives of Jim Elliot and Eric Liddell

Jim Elliot was an evangelical Christian who was one of five missionaries killed while participating in Operation Auca, an attempt to evangelize the Huaorani people of Ecuador.

Eric Liddell was a Scottish Olympic Gold Medalist runner, rugby union international player, and Christian missionary. At the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris, Liddell refused to run in the heats for his favored 100 meters because they were held on a Sunday. Instead he competed in the 400 meters held on a weekday, a race that he won. He returned to China in 1925 to serve as a missionary teacher. He died in China in a Japanese civilian internment camp in 1945.

## Summary:

Jesus recognized and embraced His Kingdom purpose over worldly priorities

## Challenge/Application:

■ Philippians 3:12 ... but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. What has Jesus taken hold of you for?

## Prayer:

## Next Week:

■ 2020-01-12 - Todd Carvell

Let's Read the Bible Together!

(To read in preparation for or following the service.)

Psalms 19:1-10

Song:

Mission Minute:

Sharing Time:

Benediction:

## Other Resources:

<https://www.crossway.org/articles/jim-elliott-was-no-fool/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgK\\_SaTe8K0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgK_SaTe8K0)