



Twelve-Year-Old Jesus, at the Temple
Luke 2:41-51 (NLT)

Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening, they started looking for him among their relatives and friends.

When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere."

"But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they didn't understand what he meant.

Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart.

Why is the story of Jesus at the temple so unique?

- IT IS THE _____
- IT IS THE LAST TIME _____
- THE STORY RECORDS THE _____

"But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"

Luke 2:49 (NLT)

Parenting is hard work!

(Mary said,) *"Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you?"*

Luke 2:48 (NLT)

Have you ever wondered why this story alone, out of all other possible childhood stories, was chosen to be included in Luke's gospel?

- Parents never forget the times when their children were lost or in danger.
- It was a TURNING POINT for Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

(Mary said,) *"Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you?"*
But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"

Luke 2:48-49 (NLT)

Mary said: *"Your father..."*

Little "f" = Joseph

Jesus said: *"...my Father's house"*

Capital "F" = God

Answer key

- IT IS THE ONLY STORY FROM JESUS' CHILDHOOD
- IT IS THE LAST TIME JOSEPH IS MENTIONED ALIVE
- THE STORY RECORDS THE FIRST WORDS OF JESUS