

The Boy at the Temple

Luke 2:41-52

Every year Jesus' family traveled from their home to Nazareth to Jerusalem to celebrate the festival of Passover. Jesus loved going to the festival. He loved the crowds of people; he loved the noise and bustle of activity; and he loved spending time in the temple.

One year when Jesus was 12, the festival began like any other. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus enjoyed the sights, sounds, and activities of the festival together. When the festival was over, Mary and Joseph joined others from Nazareth for the long walk home. But when the group stopped to camp at the end of the first day, Mary and Joseph could not find Jesus anywhere!

Everyone thought he had been walking with someone else in the group. "Jeeeeeesuuuus!" yelled his parents frantically! "Jesus, where are you?"

Mary and Joseph were panicked! They quickly walked back to Jerusalem looking for him. They searched the city high and low for three whole days until they found Jesus in the temple. Mary and Joseph were surprised at what they saw. Jesus was in the temple talking with teachers more than twice his age! He was just a boy, but he could talk about God with a room full of grown-ups! The teachers in the temple were impressed with what Jesus knew

Mary and Joseph were proud, but they were still a bit angry with Jesus because they had been so scared!

Jesus simply responded by saying: "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you understand that I would be in my Father's house?"

Mary and Joseph didn't understand, but with that they gathered their belongings and started the long walk home. What do you think Jesus meant when he said: "I was in my Father's house?"

Luke 2:46-47



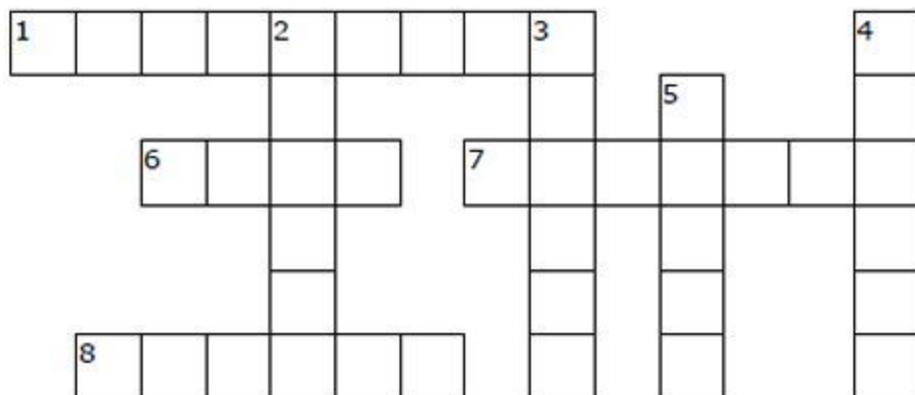
Luke 2:48-50



The Boy Jesus in the Temple

After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Luke 2:46 (NIV)

Puzzle is based on Luke 2:41-52



ACROSS

1. People related by kinship, common origin, or marriage.
6. A place where a person or family lives; a residence
7. A father and mother
8. Someone you know, like, and trust

DOWN

2. A building used for religious ceremonies or worship
3. To look carefully in order to find something
4. The ability to judge what is true or right
5. A large meal; A periodic religious festival

PARENTS	RELATIVES	TEMPLE	WISDOM
FRIEND	FEAST	HOME	SEARCH