

Jesus Obeys His Parents



Luke 2:46–52 (For the full story, read Luke 2:41–52.)

46 On the third day they found him in the **Temple**, sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking questions. 47 All who heard him were amazed 48 [H]is mother said to him, “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you.”

49 He answered . . . “Didn’t you know that I had to be in my Father’s house?” 50 But they did not understand his answer.

51 So Jesus went back with them to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. His mother **treasured** all these things in her heart. 52 Jesus grew both in body and in wisdom, gaining **favor** with God and people.

Temple a building for prayer and bringing gifts to God

treasured valued very highly

favor approval and support



Understand It!

Parents give orders like “Wash your hands,” “You can’t watch that program,” and “Do your homework.” Sometimes it’s hard to obey, isn’t it? When he was only twelve years old, Jesus traveled to Jerusalem with Mary and Joseph. Mary and Joseph did not know that when they left, Jesus stayed behind in the Temple. When they found him, he was talking with the teachers. Jesus amazed the teachers because he knew so much about God.

This Gospel story tells us that after this, Jesus was obedient to Mary and Joseph until he became a grown man. He went back to Nazareth with them where he grew up under their care. By obeying his parents on earth Jesus obeyed his heavenly Father. By obeying your parents, you obey God too.

We call Jesus, Mary, and Joseph the *Holy Family*. All families can be holy by loving and helping one another. We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family every year on the Sunday after Christmas.

STORY
Luke 2

Live It!

Think about some things that Mary or Joseph might have told Jesus to do when he was a child. Then think about the things that your parents tell you to do. How do you think Jesus responded to Mary and Joseph? Ask Jesus to help you obey your parents as he obeyed Mary and Joseph.

Tell It!



Using the pictures above, retell this story in your own words.