



**Mustard Seed Sunday School Lesson for January 6, 2008  
Released on Wednesday, January 2, 2007**

**“Questions and Answers”**

**Lesson: Luke 2:41—52.**

**Read: Luke 2:41—52.**

**Times: A.D. 7 or 8**

**Place: Jerusalem**

**MEMORY VERSE: “He said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?” (Luke 2:29).**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT:**

**Luke 2:41—52**

41Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

42And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

43And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.

44But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.

45And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

46And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

47And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

48And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.

49And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?

50And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

51And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

52And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

### **TEACHER'S NOTES ON THE LESSON**

The Bible does not tell us when Jesus first realized who He was, but the account of how Joseph and Mary found Him in the temple indicates that He knew at least by age twelve. He knew His goal was to do the will of His Father in heaven. That goal would continue through His adult year (cf. John 8:29) and ultimately lead Him to the cross (cf. Mark 14:36). Doing the Father's will is a goal for believers to pursue.

### **THE OBJECT IN VIEW:**

Teach that Jesus' desire was just to do the will of the Father.

### **TRUTHS TO STRESS:**

1. God, not Joseph, was Jesus' Father (Joseph was Jesus' earthly father).
2. Wherever Jesus was, He always did the things that pleased God.
3. Pleasing our Father, wherever we are, is His plan for us.

### **PLANNING VISUAL AIDS:**

For Beginning the Lesson, draw a large question mark on a half sheet of construction paper.

For Telling the Lesson, take six half sheets of different-colored art paper, and draw a question mark on each. You will use the last question mark in Telling How to Live. Bring these pictures: a manger scene, a Bible times crowd, and the twelve-year-old Jesus in the temple.

For Helping to Remember, cut colored construction paper crosswise into four strips. You will need one strip per child. Each will need crayons and a 24-inch length of yarn. You will also need a paper punch.

### **BEGINNING THE LESSON:**

Why do people ask questions? (Show question mark.) Yes, they want answers. But sometimes they just want somebody to think. Listen to the kinds of questions that got asked in our lesson text.

### **TELLING THE LESSON:**

The Bible does not tell us much about Jesus when He was a boy. It does say He did not stay a baby. (Show manger scene.) He grew. One day He was just your size. And one day He was twelve years old.

Once a year there was an important day called Passover. Joseph and all the other men would travel up to the temple in Jerusalem for the special celebration. Mary went along every year, and this time Jesus went too.

In those days the roads were not very safe. Robbers often hid along the way. It was safer when lots of people went together. So families and friends would walk or ride their donkeys in one big group. (Show crowd.)

That is the way it was when Jesus was twelve years old. He and Joseph and Mary went with many uncles and aunts and cousins and friends.

The people traveled in an interesting way. Often all the women and children would go first. The men would walk or ride behind and protect them from any trouble. Jesus was not yet a grown-up, but He was not a little boy anymore, either. So He could walk either in front with His mother or in back with Joseph.

The celebrating in the big city lasted several days, but finally the special events were over. Joseph and Mary and their relatives and friends started home. The women were up front. The men were in the back.

This time Jesus was not up front with Mary and the women. He was not in back with Joseph and the men. But Joseph and Mary did not worry. They thought He was just somewhere with His friends or His relatives. But when the day was almost over, they began asking, "Have you seen Jesus?" (Show first question mark.) "Has Jesus been playing with your boy?" The answer was always no.

At last they went back to the big city to look for Him. They looked for one day. Where could He be? (Show next question mark.) Was He up at the fort, where the soldiers were? No. They looked for Him another day. Was He in the market, where people were buying and selling and children were playing? No.

Three days after they left the big city, they looked in the temple. And there was Jesus—in the special teaching room, listening to the important Bible teachers talk and asking them questions! (Show Jesus in temple.)

The important teachers were all thinking, How can a twelve-year-old boy know so much? (Show next question mark.) Do you know how He knew so much? He was God's Son.

Mary could not understand why Jesus was there. (Show next question mark.) "Why, son?" she asked. "Your father and I have been looking for you. We have been sad and worried."

Then Jesus asked a question. (Show next question mark.) "Why? Did you not know I would be doing what My Father wants Me to do?" Jesus' Father was not Joseph but God. He would not be doing anything wrong or getting into trouble; He would be doing only what pleased His Father in heaven.

The family went home then. Even though Jesus was God's Son, He obeyed His mother and Joseph, who was His father on earth. He grew taller and wiser, and the things He did pleased God and people too.

### **TELLING HOW TO LIVE:**

People asked lots of questions in our lesson. Now let me ask you question. What God wanted was important to Jesus. Is what the Lord wants important to you? (Show last question mark.) Will you try to please Him wherever you are?

### **HELPING TO REMEMBER:**

Let each student draw the largest question mark he can on his paper and then use variety of colors to decorate it. Punch a hole at the top to insert a length of yarn, and tie the question mark around the child's neck. Tell them the question mark means "Is what the Lord wants important to you?"

**EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE:**

"He said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2:29).

In this verse, "He" is Jesus. "Them" means Joseph and Mary. The word "sought" means "looked for," and "wist" is an old word that means to "know" something. So Jesus was asking Joseph and Mary, "Why were you so worried and looking for Me? Did you not know that I would just be doing something My heavenly Father wants Me to do?"

**Lesson Summarized By:**

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Jesus Is All Ministries

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**MUSTARD SEED LESSON ACTIVITIES:  
"Questions and Answers"  
(Luke 2:41–52)**



Memory Verse:

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**MEMORY VERSE:**

"He said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2:29).

**CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:**

1. "His parents went to (**ROME, JERUSALEM**) every year at the Feast of the Passover." **LUKE 2:41**
2. "And when He was (**EIGHT, TWELVE**) years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast." **LUKE 2:42**
3. "When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother (**DID, DID NOT**) know it." **LUKE 2:43**
4. "...but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a (**DAY'S, YEAR'S**) journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances." **LUKE 2:44**

**TRUE OR FALSE:**

5. "So when they did not find Him, they continued on their way home." **LUKE 2:45**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**
6. "Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple..." **LUKE 2:46**  
**TRUE OR FALSE**
7. "...sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions." **LUKE 2:46** **TRUE OR FALSE**
8. "And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers." **LUKE 2:47** **TRUE OR FALSE**

**CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORDS:**

9. "So when they saw Him, they were (**MAD, AMAZED**); and His mother said to Him, 'Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously.' " **LUKE 2:48**
10. "And He said to them, 'Why is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I (**MUST, MIGHT**) be about My Father's business?' " **LUKE 2:49**

**MUSTARD SEED LESSON CROSSWORD PUZZLE:  
"Questions and Answers"  
(Luke 2:41–52)**

N V U P A C J F Q P E K W Y F  
A R K Z H L H S O E P D K D S  
Z C O I H J Q W E V T D I E U  
A M L Y Z C O U W A C S J E S  
R D R E V O S S A P S U S L E  
E L I Y Y V A D E R C B U I J  
T B T O N T F E A S T J E L E  
H B E J J W W S B L H E A A J  
C M E L A S U R E J U C V G O  
U A J F T H P E S O J T D J U  
M C E L P M E T K W E O Q I G  
D M A R Y H V J S J C K E P F  
T E A C H E R S U U N Q N T K  
L W K A P P M H H O Q K R V D  
S J K H E V L E W T L L Y R B

CHILD  
FEAST  
GALILEE  
JERUSALEM  
JESUS

JOSEPH  
MARY  
NAZARETH  
PASSOVER

SUBJECT  
TEACHERS  
TEMPLE  
TWELVE

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**FILL IN THE BLANKS:**

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**LUKE 2:41**

2. "And when He was \_\_\_\_\_ years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast." **LUKE 2:42**

3. "When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it."  
**LUKE 2:43**

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