

# Everyday FAITH Family Page

New Testament 1

## Law/Gospel

Because of sin, I cannot recognize who Jesus is. **Through Baptism and the power of His Word, God makes clear to me that Jesus is His Son and my Savior.**

## Bible Words

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

Psalm 122:1

## Fun Fact

A cycle of yearly festivals filled Jerusalem and its temple with pilgrims. These included the following:

- Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread in March–April
- Pentecost in May–June
- Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Feast of Booths in September–October
- Purim in February–March

## The Boy Jesus in the Temple

Luke 2:41–52

The day probably started like many other travel days. Passover was over, and Jesus' family headed home to Nazareth.

Large crowds filled the roads. Family and friends walked together. Women and children sometimes left first because they traveled more slowly than the men. Everyone met their families around dinnertime.

But at the end of this first day of travel, Mary and Joseph realized Jesus was missing. Frantically, they returned to Jerusalem.

They finally found Jesus three days later in the temple, sitting with the religious teachers, listening and asking questions. All who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and answers.

Mary felt astonished too. Didn't Jesus know she and Joseph had looked for Him in great distress? Jesus said, "Didn't you know I needed to be in My Father's house?" Already at this young age, Jesus gave indications of His special identity as God's Son.

Mary and Joseph didn't understand Jesus' words, but His actions showed respect for His parents. Jesus obediently and submissively returned home with them.

Mary "treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:51–52).

## Asking Questions

Some Pharisees and Sadducees were also rabbis. They often met at the temple to discuss God's Word. They debated and asked questions of one another, a common way rabbis taught.

Later, when Jesus became a rabbi, He often answered people's questions with more questions. For example, read about Jesus' encounter with a rich young man in Mark 10:17–27.

## Prayer

*Jesus, open my eyes and heart so that I can see and understand that You are the Christ, the Son of God. In Your name I pray. Amen.*

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