

An illustration of a young boy with dark hair, wearing a light-colored tunic, sitting on the floor. He is looking towards the right. In the background, there is a temple interior with large columns and other people. A large, stylized profile of a man's face is visible on the right side of the image. The text 'young Jesus' is overlaid in the center.

# young Jesus

While visiting the temple in Jerusalem at age twelve, Jesus became separated from his parents and was inadvertently left behind. Upon returning to Jerusalem three days later, his worried parents found him at the Temple listening to the teachers and amazing those around him with his understanding.

# young jesus



Welcome all the Children/Young people and discuss their week. What did they get up to at school? What do they remember from last week's lesson? What things have they been praying and asking God for? **Start with Prayer**



**Luke 2:40-52**

It's time to read the bible together. Maybe someone would like to volunteer to read it, or perhaps we could read it together?



Click here to [Watch](#) together AND USE THE STORY IN THIS PACK TO READ.



- **Why were Jesus' family and other Jews travelling to Jerusalem?** (To celebrate the feast of the Passover)
- **How old was Jesus when his parents travelled with him to the Temple?** (Twelve)
- **What city was the temple in?** (Jerusalem)
- **What are the four ways that Jesus grew?**
  - Physically,
  - in wisdom-mentally,
  - in knowledge about God-spiritually,
  - in getting along with other people-socially)
- **Where was Jesus when his parents were looking for him?** (In the Temple)
- **What was Jesus doing when his parents found him?** (Talking with the teachers of the law in the Temple)
- **What did Jesus' parents learn about Jesus that day?** (possible answers: He was growing up, wise, understood the Law, wanted to learn, knew God was His father, etc.)
- **What did you learn about Jesus or God from this story?**



1. Cut out the temple template and cut three sides of the door, leaving one side for the door to open.
2. Glue the temple to a piece of card
3. Cut out the picture of Jesus and put it behind the door (like an advent calendar)
4. Colour in the picture and voila!



## MEMORY

God did this so that all people will respect the Son the same way they respect the Father.

## VERSE

**John 5:23**

# memory verse take home cut

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**John 5:23**

# ways to introduce

Attach a long strip of adding-machine tape (or any long strip of paper) to the wall. Mark off measurements.

Measure various people (older and younger than the children you teach) before the children arrive and mark the heights on the paper. As children arrive, measure them and mark their heights on the paper. Show them how they are taller than children younger than them.

Point out how much they will probably grow by the time they reach the age of the older children or adults you have measured. You could do the same thing with scales and weigh the children.

How else do we grow?

We grow in how much we learn and how much we know.

We grow in our understanding of God and Jesus. We grow in the way we get along with other people.

Jesus was a baby, but then he grew.

Today, we are going to learn about something that happened to Jesus when he was twelve years old.

# THE STORY

When Jesus was a little boy, his family moved to Nazareth. Jesus grew up doing the things that little boys do. He played games with his friends, and he went to school. Joseph was a carpenter, so Jesus learned how to help him make things from wood.

Every year, Jesus travelled to Jerusalem to attend the Passover Feast. This was a religious holiday and a special ceremony. Joseph always took part in the celebration. Jesus knew that someday he would be a grown man like Joseph. Someday, he would go to Jerusalem and visit the Temple where the teachers were.

Finally, the time had come. Jesus was twelve years old.

This meant he could go to the Temple and participate in the Passover Feast like the other men. Jesus and his family travelled all the way to Jerusalem. It took many days to get there.

Sometimes, there were robbers on the roads, so Jesus' family travelled along with lots of other families to be safe. Jesus probably liked walking with his friends and cousins. He might have played games and talked with them as they walked to Jerusalem.

Joseph and Mary would probably have also seen many of their friends in Jerusalem. It was a beautiful city, and everyone was there to worship God. After the festivities, it was time to go back home to Nazareth.

But as they headed home, Joseph and Mary noticed that someone was missing. They had been travelling for a whole day before they finally realised it.

At first, they probably thought he was walking with his friends. After looking everywhere, they knew that he must still be back in Jerusalem.

Where was their son, Jesus? They searched for him and finally found him. Can you guess where Jesus was?

# THE STORY pt 2

Joseph and Mary found Jesus in the Temple courts.

He was with the teachers of the Law, and he was asking them questions. It seems Jesus had enjoyed learning and listening so much that he had stayed to hear more. Everyone there was amazed at how much this boy understood God's word.

Mary told Jesus they had been searching and searching. She wanted to know why he was still there at the Temple. Jesus surprised them with his answer. "Why were you searching for me?" he asked, "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" Jesus knew that God was his Father and that the Temple was God's Special House.

When Mary and Joseph heard this, they knew that Jesus was growing up. He was understanding more and more about his heavenly father.

They knew that it would not be long before he was a man. But he was not a man yet! He was only twelve years old.

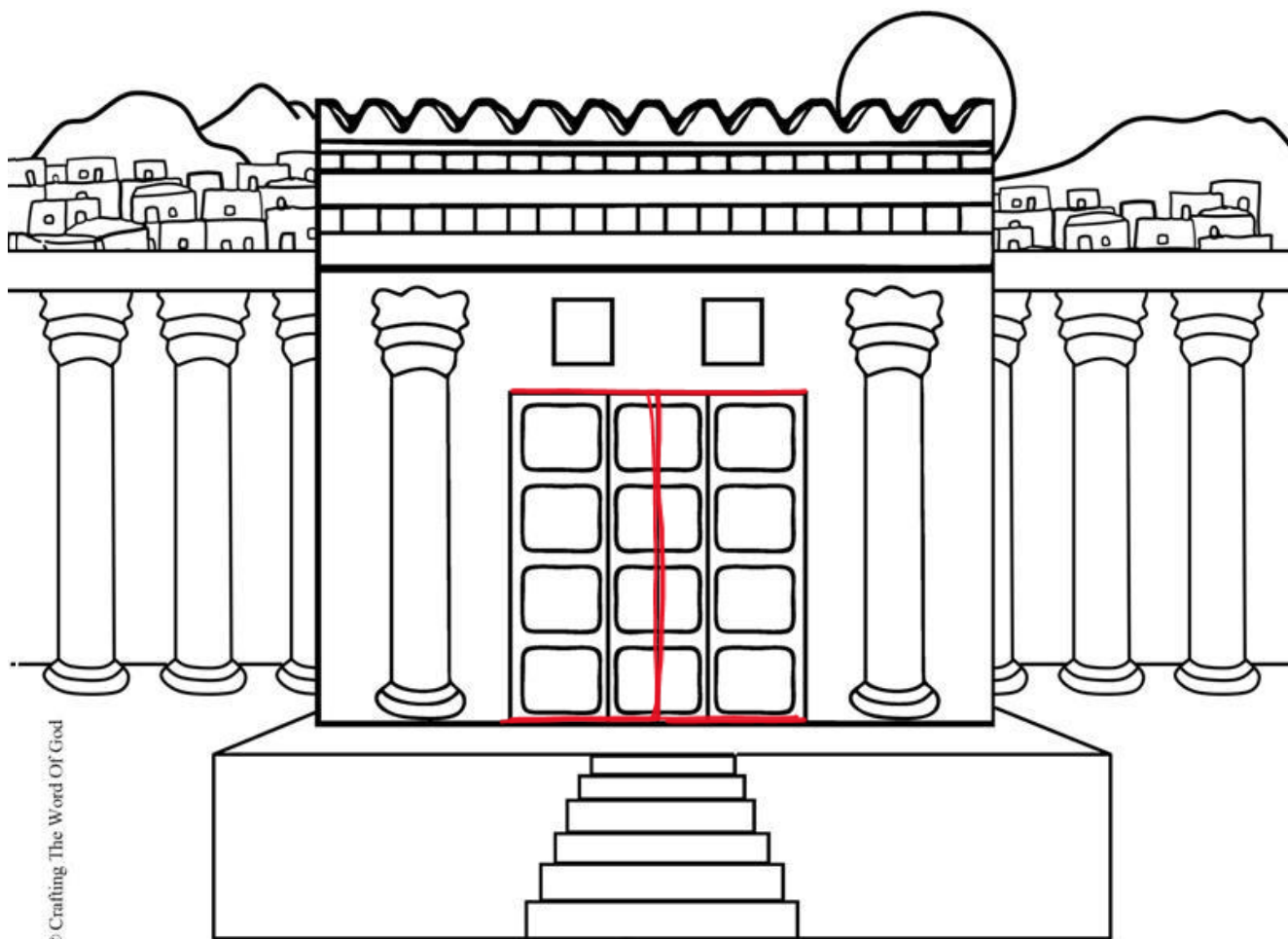
Jesus travelled back to Nazareth, and he obeyed his parents in everything they said. Jesus helped the family and was a good son.

Jesus worked along with Joseph and learned to be a carpenter. He made his mother and Joseph very happy.

Jesus was indeed growing, but not just in his body. Jesus grew in four ways:

- He grew in wisdom. That meant that he learned about God and the world and how to live a good life in the world.
- He grew physically. That means he ate good food and exercised so he could grow big and strong.
- He grew spiritually. That means in the way he knew and loved God.
- He grew socially. That means he learned how to make friends and treat people respectfully.

# cut outs temple and jesus



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# colouring in





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