



Religious Education

Lesson 4 - 5/2/21

Jesus and his Family

Know about the loss and finding of Jesus. Reflect on the feelings of Mary and Joseph when Jesus was lost and then found.



Read The Story

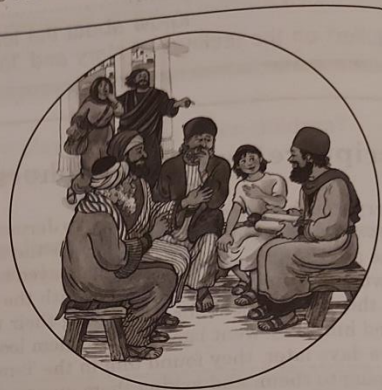
Look at page 16 in Big Book: Jesus in the Temple

Mary and Joseph thought Jesus was lost.

They were worried and looked for him everywhere.

When they found him, he was talking to the teachers!

Mary and Joseph were so happy to find him.



Questions to ask on the picture in the Big Book:

- Who do you see in the picture?
- What is Jesus doing?
- Who is he with?
- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when he was lost?
- How do you think they feel now?

Text to read to children:

When Jesus was twelve years old - almost grown up! - the Holy Family went to Jerusalem to celebrate an important feast, as they did every year. At the end of the feast, Mary and Joseph and their friends started off on the long journey back home to Nazareth. Lots of people were with them and they thought Jesus was there too. But at the end of the day, when they stopped to rest for the night, they looked for him - and he wasn't there! He must have stayed behind in Jerusalem, they thought.

Straight away, Mary and Joseph turned back to Jerusalem. How tired they must have been! But they just had to find Jesus.

Jerusalem was a big town and Mary and Joseph searched for three whole days before they found Jesus. Can you guess where they found him? *[Children could make suggestions here.]*



Read The Story

(continued)

Jesus was in the Temple! He wasn't lost or afraid. He was talking to the teachers who came to the Temple. Of course, the teachers didn't know who Jesus was, so they were very surprised to hear his wise answers to their questions about God. They didn't know that he is the Son of God, but they certainly wondered who he was!

Mary and Joseph were so pleased to see him - they thought he was lost. "Why did you do this?" Mary asked. "We've been so worried!"

"Why were you looking for me?" Jesus asked. "Didn't you know I had to start doing God's work?"

Mary and Joseph didn't really understand what he meant, but they were so pleased to find him that it didn't matter. Jesus went back home to Nazareth with them and was happy to do everything they said. But Mary often thought of that time and remembered what Jesus had said.



Discuss The Story

Questions to ask on story:

- Do you remember the first time Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem? [*Make link here with the Presentation.*]
- How do you think Mary and Joseph felt when they discovered Jesus was not there at the end of the day's travel? [*Point out this was foot travel, took a long time; they might have felt guilty - they had a special child to look after; frightened, very tired but had to go back and look for him.*]
- Where do you think they looked for Jesus before they thought of the Temple? [*Shops, playing with other children, lying hurt somewhere.*]
- Why do you think they were so worried? [*They had been given a special job to do; Jesus was still quite young, though considered almost a man in those times; they were afraid he had been hurt; they were worried that he might be hungry after three days; he had been lost for a long time.*]
- Why do you think Jesus was surprised that they had been searching for him? [*He thought they would think of the Temple (God's house) first; he thought they would understand about doing God's work.*]



Activities

Activities

1. a) Role-play Mary and Joseph talking to each other when they discovered that Jesus was lost.
b) Write down how they felt.
2. **Work Book** page 17 'Jesus is found in the Temple'.



Activities (continued)

Jesus is found in the Temple



What did Mary say to Jesus when she found him?

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What did he reply?

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What do you think Jesus meant?

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