

Watch the lesson video:
<https://youtu.be/qYMcR6HFpL4>
(5:07) Bible Heroes of Faith

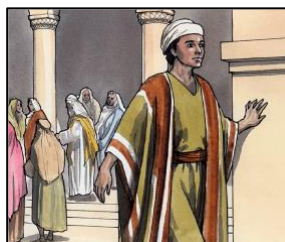


JESUS AT THE TEMPLE AT AGE 12 (Luke 2:40-52)



The Bible says, "Jesus grew in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man." Jesus grew up in the town of Nazareth doing the things that boys do. He played games with his friends and he went to school. His father Joseph was a carpenter. Jesus helped make things.

Every year the Jews traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. It took many days to get to Jerusalem. Jesus' family traveled with lots of other families to be safe. Jesus probably enjoyed walking with his friends and cousins. He might have played games and talked with them as they walked.



Finally, the time had come for Jesus to visit the Temple. He was 12 years old. This meant that he could go to the temple like the grown men. Jesus liked visiting the temple and talking to the teachers. In fact, Jesus enjoyed it so much that he kept talking to the teachers when his parents left to go back home!

At first Joseph and Mary did not notice Jesus was missing. They probably thought he was walking with his friends. They had been traveling a whole day when they finally realized he wasn't there. So, they returned to Jerusalem.

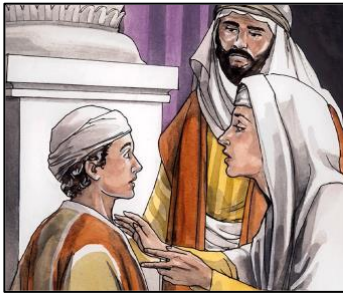




Mary and Joseph looked all around Jerusalem for their son.
After 3 days, they found him.



He was in the temple courts talking about God.
Everyone there was amazed at how well this boy
understood God's word.



Mary told Jesus they had been searching for him. Jesus said, "Why were you searching for me? Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" Jesus knew that he was God's special Son and that the Temple was God's special house.

When Mary and Joseph heard this, they knew that Jesus was growing up. They knew that it would not be long till Jesus was doing the work of God. But he was not a man yet! He was only 12 years old. Jesus traveled back to Nazareth with Mary and Joseph.



Jesus grew and he obeyed his parents in everything they said. He made his mother and Joseph very happy. Mary treasured all these things in her heart.

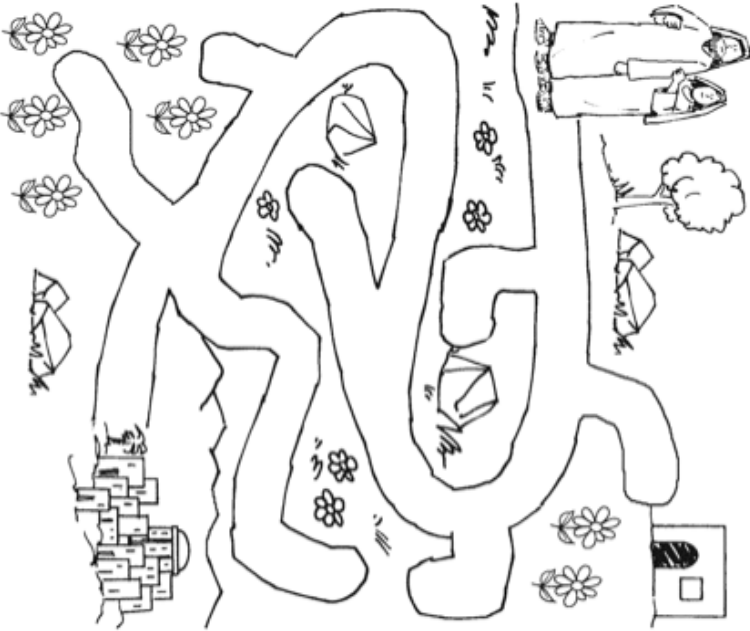
Luke 2:52 says that Jesus grew:

- 1.) **He grew in wisdom.** That meant that he learned God's word and did right.
- 2.) **He grew "in stature."** That means he grew big and strong.
- 3.) **He grew "in favor with God and man."** That means he lived in a way that pleased God. People were pleased with him too.

We should all try to be like Jesus!

When they started home, no one could find Jesus, so Joseph and Mary went back to Jerusalem.

Help Joseph and Mary get back to Jerusalem.



Jesus asked them,
 "Didn't you know where I'd be?"

Use the code to fill in the missing letters below.

☆ = A † = E ☁ = I

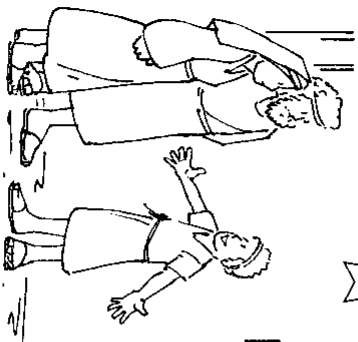
♥ = O ◇ = U

Where was Jesus?

N H S

F T H R'S

H S



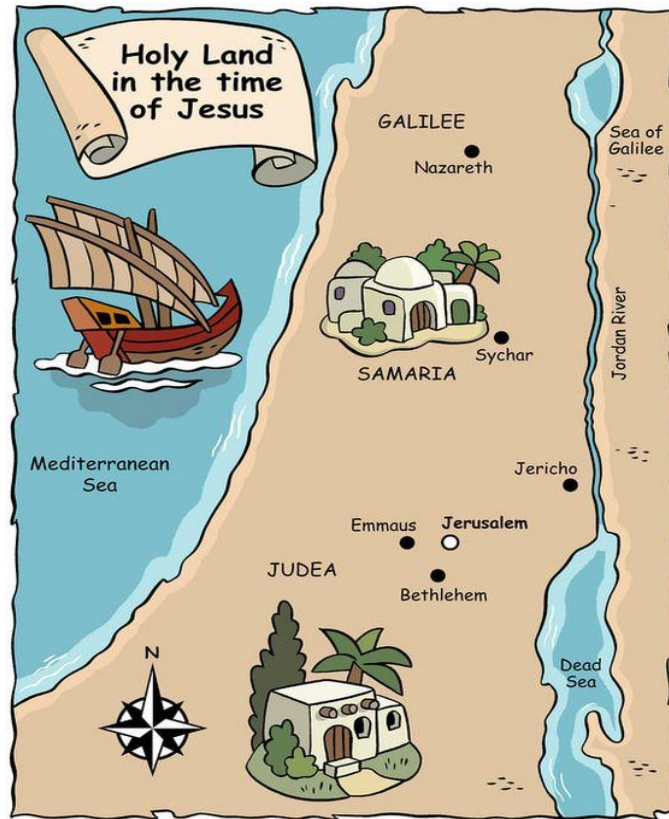
Map Work

- Circle Jesus' home.
- Where was the Temple?
- Locate Jesus' birthplace.

Check this out:

Watch this video to see what the Temple looked like during the time of Jesus.
(1:51)

<https://youtu.be/QQQyNVw8Pf4>



Thought Questions

Jesus grew up as a kid like you. Mark 6:3 says that Jesus had 4 brothers and some sisters too.

- What would be temptations for Jesus growing up in this family?

- Read the verse below:

“... [Jesus] has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.”
(Hebrews 4:15)

Did Jesus ever do wrong? _____

- Do you think you can ever be perfect like Jesus was? _____
God knows you aren't perfect, but you can grow to be more like Jesus!

