

MEN'S LIFE BLOOMINGTON & GOD @ WORK

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Twelve Year Old Jesus

Luke 2:40-52

Theme: *Family*

Major Segments:

- Jesus goes with family to celebrate Passover in Jerusalem
- Family begins trip home and realizes Jesus is missing
- They find Jesus teaching in temple
- Jesus lives in submission to his family

Segment Questions:

- Describe a time where you (or a friend) could not find a child? What were emotions like? How was the search conducted?
- Mary and Joseph didn't realize for nearly a day that Jesus was missing. What does this say about them, society and life in the 1st century?
- Was Jesus' stay at the temple intentional or accidental? State the rationale for your reason.
- What do you think was going through the minds of the teachers in the temple? What do you think happened when evening came? Do you think some were actively trying to get him back to his parents?
- Scripture says Jesus lived a sinless life (2 Corinthians 5:21). As a parent, I sure would have felt that my son had sinned if he did this to me. Why is this not considered a sin? Do you think Jesus ever apologized?
- What is at the heart of this passage? Parenting, perspective, purpose?
- What is the meaning behind Jesus' statement that "Surely you knew I'd be here in my Father's house—doing his business?"
- The passage closes by stating that Jesus lived in submission to His parents and was respected. With so little that is said about the childhood and youth of Jesus, why say this?

Action Questions:

- How should a parent use this passage as a guide for parenting? How should it not be used?
- What are times where the higher calling of the proclamation of the Gospel might supersede the needs or interests of others?
- What does this passage say about where our priorities in life should be? Are there times we need to listen, ask questions and be amazed by the teachings of Jesus?

Luke 2:40-52

From: www.btstories.com

When Jesus was twelve years old, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. When it was time to return home, Jesus stayed behind at the temple, without his parents knowing. They traveled a whole day, thinking he was among the crowd.

That evening they realized he was missing. They went back to Jerusalem and searched for him for three days. Finally they found him in the court of the temple, sitting among the teachers. He was listening to them and asking questions.

Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his ability to answer questions.

His mother ran up and said, "Son, how could you do this to us? We've been searching for you."

He said, "Surely you knew I'd be here in my Father's house—doing his business." They didn't understand what he was talking about.

Jesus went back to Nazareth, and lived in submission to his parents. He grew, and matured, and was respected by all that knew him. God's blessing was on his life.